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ZAMYATIN: U.S. 'MISTAKEN' IN LINKING TALKS

LD031932 Helsinki International Service in Finnish 1600 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] The proposal of the chief U.S. delegate at the START talks, Edward Rowny, concerning combining the Geneva START and Euromissile talks, received the first high-level Soviet reply today. Leonid Zamyatin, who is responsible for all CPSU international information, has been interviewed by Yleisradio.

[Begin recording] [Jyrki Koulumies] Expectations that the lengthy talk between Foreign Ministers Shultz and Gromkyo in Stockholm had opened new rapprochement in superpower relations will probably not be fulfilled, according to today's interview with Leonid Zamyatin. The sides ahdere to their viewpoints. Do the talks have any direct relation to the Geneva talks?

[Zamyatin in Russian, followed by Finnish translation] They do not have either direct or indirect relation to them.

[Koulumies] When asked whether the Stockholm talks and the interrupted Geneva talks are in any way connected, Zamyatin noted simply that there is no connection, and that entirely different matters are being discussed at the meeting. He also said that the West is mistaken if and when it sees a link between Stockholm and Geneva. He repeated the Soviet view that it is precisely the United States that has broken off the talks. The debate concerning the definition of first-strike and second-strike missiles was dealt with unambiguously by Zamyatin, who said that American Euromissiles, Pershing, and cruise missiles are first-strike missiles, whereas the Soviet SS-20 missiles are purely defensive.

[Zamyatin in Russian, followed by Finnish translation] Only under one condition -- if the United States removes the Pershing II missiles and cruise deployed in Europe.

[Koulumies] When asked on what general conditions the Soviet Union is ready to return to the Geneva talks, Zamyatin reiterated the old Soviet stand that the condition is that the United States removes its missiles from Europe. At the same time he said that his country is ready to propose an essential reduction of medium-range missiles. The phrase essential reduction is intersting as it closely resembles President Ronald Reagan's phrases in the same connection. Zamyatin did not see anything new in the situation. From a general viewpoint, the situation between the superpowers is currently at a stage where Moscow allows the United States to make its possible openings and new offers publicly. Neither side can harden its line any further. All their cards are now on the table. [end recording]

NONGOVERNMENTAL DISARMAMENT COMMITTEE MEETS

LD031544 Moscow TASS in English 1139 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Geneva February 3 TASS -- A meeting of the special committee of non-governmental organizations for disarmament issues has opened in the Palace of Nations here. The meeting of the committee, represented in which are 40 international organizations and national anti-war movements, is presided over by prominent public figure, Lenin Prize Laureate Sean MacBride.

On the agenda of the meeting are topical issues pertaining to the intensification of the struggle for curbing the arms race and preventing the threat of nuclear war, questions connected with the world-wide campaign for disarmament, which is being held under the U.N. aegis. Special attention at the meeting will be devoted to the role of the anti-war movement in contributing to the successful holding of the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-Building Measures, Security and Disarmament in Europe.

Session Ends

LD042304 Moscow TASS in English 2007 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Geneva February 4 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Vladislav Shishlo:

The special committee of non-governmental organizations on disarmament issues today closed its session at the Palace of Nations. More than forty representatives of international organizations and several national anti-war movements took part in its work. They discussed topical issues, namely, the invigoration of the role of the public in the efforts to curb the arms race and prevent nuclear war, its role in promoting the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-Building Measures, and Security and Disarmament in Europe and the Conference on Disarmament (the former Disarmament Committee), the session of which opens in Geneva on February 6, and several other issues.

The session's address to the participants in the Stockholm conference stresses that it must pay special attention to such problems as the pledge on the non-first-use of nuclear weapons and the reaching of an accord between the participating nations on the non-use of military force and on a nuclear freeze.

The address to the Disarmament Conference wishes its participants success in their work and elaboration of measures with a view to improving the international climate and strengthening security.

The need was stressed during the session of the special committee of non-governmental organizations on disarmament issues to conclude an international treaty on a comprehensive ban of nuclear-weapon tests and a convention banning the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons and on their elimination, holding talks ending the arms race in outer space and working out comprehensive measures on disarmament in the spirit of the Helsinki Final Act.

U.S. UNDERGROUND TEST OF NUCLEAR DEVICE NOTED

LD011400 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0935 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] New York, 1 Feb (TASS) -- The United States has carried out its first underground test this year on a nuclear device at the test range in Nevada. The power of the charge was between 20 and 150 kilotons. Last year the United States announced that 15 underground nuclear tests were to take place, AP has reported.

COMPARISON TO PRAVDA EDITORIAL ARTICLE

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian in its 4 February First Edition carries on page 4 and Editorial Article entitled "Washington's Unseemly [Neblagovidnyye] Deeds." The PRAVDA version has been compared with the Moscow TASS English report on the article published on pages AA 1-3 of the 3 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT and, minus the dateline and introductory paragraph, was found to be identical except for the following variations:

Page AA 1, paragraph two, line one, PRAVDA begins: [Text] The United States...

Paragraph five, line four, PRAVDA reads: ...in the report "are not confirmed... (through line six) ...the diplomatic one." (supplying quotemarks)

Page AA 3, paragraph one, line four, PRAVDA reads: ...its hands for the mass deployment of cruise missiles of a long... (substituting "mass" for "broad," supplying "cruise")

BAYBAKOV COMMENTS ON CEMA COORDINATION OF PLANS

LD041952 Moscow World Service in English 1600 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] The chairman of the State Planning Committee of the USSR, Nikolay Baybakov, has said that the member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance have become the most dynamic economic force in the world.

Interviewed by the press, Nikolay Baybakov said that the cooperation of the socialist countries in coordinating their economic and social development plans until the year 1990 had become especially important just now. This coordination provides for joint efforts by the countries of the socialist community on major industrial projects.

These include nuclear power stations, ore concentration plants, and oil and gas fields. One such project involves constructing a new gas pipeline from Siberia to the western borders of the Soviet Union.

E. BLOC YOUTH UNION OFFICIALS CONFER IN BUDAPEST

PM311433 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jan 84 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Secretaries' Conference"]

[Text] A conference on international questions for the secretaries of the central committees of the youth unions of the socialist countries, including the Soviet Union, has been held in the Hungarian capital.

The conference participants discussed topical questions of the international youth movement, paying special attention to preparations for the 12th World Festival of Youth and Students. Representatives of the youth unions welcomed the initiative of the Lenin Komsomol on holding this imposing international forum in Moscow in 1985. They voiced their conviction that this meeting of representatives of progressive and democratic youth movements, which will be held under the sign of anti-imperialist solidarity, peace, and friendship, will enrich the traditions of similar festivals and serve to step up further joint demonstrations by young men and women to avert war and ensure social progress. The conference stressed that the socialist countries' youth unions aspire through their activity to assist and successful preparation and conduct of the world festival.

There was an exchange of opinions at the conference on specific measures aimed at further strengthening cooperation between the socialist countries' youth organizations.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: QUESTIONS & ANSWERS'

LD031946 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 3 Feb 84

["International Situation -- Questions and Answers" program, presented by Yevgeniy Kachanov, All-Union Radio foreign policy commentator; with Dmitriy Antonovich Volskiy, member of the NOVOYE VREMYA editorial collegium; and Valentin Sergeyevich Zorin, central television and All-Union Radio political commentator]

U.S. 'Serious Reassessments'

[Excerpts] [Kachanov] The authors of several letters concerning the U.S. Administration's policy have noted a certain change in tone in the statements of Washington figures over relations with the Soviet Union. What one has in mind is attempts by the White House to play the role of some sort of peace-maker, ready, supposedly, for dialogue. So what is hidden behind this? I ask this question of Valentin Sergeyevich Zorin, who is taking part in our program.

[Zorin] Well, there is indeed a change in tone taking place. Reagan's latest statements -- not just one, but several -- and those of some other members of the cabinet, in particular Shultz, have been prepared without sharp words addressed to the Soviet Union, without any mention of a crusade and so forth, distinct from the statements of the American leadership over the past 3 years. What is more, Reagan has started talking of the need for a Soviet-American dialogue, and is stressing his readiness for this dialogue.

So we have before our eyes this external change in the tonality of the Washington leaderships' statements. I said external, because if you analyze the essence of the Reagan speeches, both on problems of Soviet-American relations and in his State of the Union message and his recent public statements, then you cannot but be struck by the fact that behind these calls for dialogue and change, and a certain external softening of the tone, there is no real content. There are no specific proposals which could break, for example, the deadlock in the Soviet-American Geneva talks, broken off through the fault of the American side.

The sharp clashes between our country and the United States on the foreign policy scene arose not simply through an exchange of sharp statements. There is an objective foundation underlying them, which primarily amounts to the unconstructive position of the United States on the major questions both of Soviet-American relations, and of problems connected with stopping the arms race.

So an analysis of the latest, the newest positions of the Washington leadership shows that there are literally no changes in substance. Behind the talk about dialogue there is nothing but a naked call for dialogue. But what the dialogue should be about, what its contents should be -- there is nothing said about that. Moreover, Reagan stresses each time that the position from which the United States is ready to hold the dialogue is a position of strength, the former position of Washington, which has led to all the complications in Soviet-American relations.

I would like to draw our listeners' attention also to the following circumstance, of no small importance: Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, in his replies to PRAVDA, made very specific, very constructive, and very important proposals. If they were really interested in dialogue in Washington, they would have had to react in some way to these proposals. But although a sufficiently long period of time has elapsed since the publication of these new Soviet proposals, Washington is maintaining complete silence on the substance of these proposals, while continuing general talk about the desirability of dialogue.

All this leads to the thought that it is not a matter of some serious reassessments being made in Washington, but a purely cosmetic operation.

[Kachanov] And this same position of the U.S. Administration, not only on bilateral Soviet-American relations, not only in relation to dialogue in Geneva, is also manifest at the Stockholm conference?

[Zorin] In general, one has to state that also in Stockholm the U.S. delegation has so far not made any constructive ideas or any constructive proposals. Well, the quite natural question arises in connection with our topic of conversation, as to what is the reason for this cosmetic improvement on the face of the American leadership. I think one must point to two reasons here. The first is one of foreign policy. Our listeners know the scope of the antiwar movement in Europe. The West European public is seriously alarmed by Washington's line of deploying American Pershing II missiles: It is alarmed; it is protesting forcefully. And naturally, however much one tries not to pay attention to or to ignore these mass movements, the leaders of the Western European countries which are partners of the United States in NATO cannot ignore these movements or the main American NATO partners concern which has been discernibly growing recently over Washington's course of spiralling international tension upward. Things have gone so far that even such a loyal, the most loyal, ally of the United States as London, the government of Margaret Thatcher, is even now trying to distance itself from Washington and is even embarking on criticism of Washington's policy in relations between East and West. So one of the reasons for these cosmetic operations is a striving, in some way, to bring reassurance to the ranks of the allies; to say that Washington's course is not at all so irresponsible, that in general Washington does not object to talks and that there is nothing frightening going on in Soviet-American relations. That is one reason.

U.S. Election Campaign

The second reason for such behavior by the Republican Party leadership lies within the country. Our listeners know that the election campaign has already started in the United States. Presidential elections are to be held in the beginning of November this year. And it must be said that all observers are struck by the very noticeable change in the mood of broad circles of the American public. While a fairly large section of Americans was for a long time under the influence of mass propaganda, and did not actively come out against the course of the Reagan administration. But recently the aggressive course of this administration has started to instill serious concern in the very widest cross-section of the American public. And, having seized on this concern, the opponents, Reagan's rivals in the election campaign from the Democratic Party, are trying to gain an advantage from this. They say that Reagan is a warmonger. They say that leaving power in the hands of the Reagan administration for another 4 years is fraught with very great dangers for the whole world and for the American people. And this is eliciting a response from the American public. So, having felt this danger in the election campaign which has started, the leadership of the Republican Party is trying to rid itself of this warmonger label, is trying to present a balance policy, a sober policy, ready for constructive dialogue with the Soviet Union. But I repeat, there is no real content behind it. Evidently it is a question of a serious, carefully thought out, but purely propagandist campaign.

[Kachanov] You mean they simply want to grab the Democrats' trump card?

[Zorin] Quite right.

[Kachanov] But, after all, the Democrats also say that questions of war and peace, questions of returning to detente and, in the final analysis, questions of Soviet-American relations are now taking a bigger and bigger place in the election campaign.

[Zorin] Yes.

[Kachanov] And one way or another the Reagan administration and the Republicans will probably have to provide some sort of reply to these urgent questions.

[Zorin] It is a very interesting phenomenon which all political observers are noticing. Until very recently it was purely domestic problems, and in particular economic problems, which were a priority among the questions worrying the broad masses of American electors. But perhaps about 1 and 1/2 to 2 months ago the polls showed that questions of foreign policy were taking first place. Americans, as I already said, are worried by Washington's course. Americans are worried in particular by the considerable worsening of Soviet-American relations. They are asking themselves whether one can entrust the presidency to a man who is not capable of arranging a constructive Soviet-American dialogue. And so, questions of foreign policy, in particular questions of Soviet-American relations, are now becoming the focus of the election campaign; although there is still a lot of time left before the elections -- the elections will be held on 6 November -- the campaign is already in full swing.

I want to remind our listeners that Reagan recently announced his candidacy for the Republic Party, and evidently within the Republican Party he will not have any serious contenders and it can probably be said that his confirmation as the Republican Party candidate for the presidential elections at the summer Republican Party congress has been predetermined. The Democratic position is more complicated. There are eight people fighting there -- eight party figures fighting for the right to be the presidential candidate. Although among these eight figures there are many differences, they do concur on one thing: They concur in their criticism of Reagan's foreign policy and are making use of this problem in their political interests.

I should say that the position of the administration on this matter is characterized by a certain political duality. On the one hand, as we have already said, it is not displaying any desire to make a serious amendments to its foreign policy course, and in particular to the problem of Soviet-American relations. It is striving to act just as it has acted for the past 3 years. On the other hand, it is not possible for the administration to not take the public mood into account, because if Reagan and his team ignore this mood, then there is a risk to the victory of the Republican Party in the presidential elections. And it is this contradiction between, on the one hand, striving to act as before and, on the other hand, adapting itself to the mood of the electors, which presently is determining the political tactics of Washington during the election campaign. So one must not talk on any serious political changes in Washington on the level of Soviet-American relations.

Well, the question arises as to how the election campaign will affect this problem in the future. It is hard to say. In any event, I have the feeling that the present leadership in Washington will do everything to maintain the substance of its former course in Soviet-American relations; not to make any changes in it, intensifying propaganda working on American public opinion, intensifying the masking of such an aggressive, adventurist course. Although indubitably the increase in U.S. public antiwar movement activities will to some extent have its effect on Washington, only time will tell to what extent. As for the Soviet Union, our position was formulated by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov in his replies to PRAVDA. He stressed that neither setting store on strength, nor rhetoric can make the world in which we live more secure. We are awaiting from the U.S. government practical deeds. This will evoke from us the appropriate response.

[Kachanov] Thank you, Valentin Sergeyevich.

Near East 'Troubled Region'

[Kachanov] Comrades Tikhonov from Lipetsk Oblast, Yusuf Rakhimov from Tajikistan and several others ask about the present situation in the Near East, particularly in Lebanon. To answer, here is a participant in our broadcast, Dmitriy Antonovich Volskiy.

[Volskiy] The events in the Near East are developing with such rapidity that even now during this broadcast there may be explosions or clashes there, and there may arise emergency situations which are not that easy to follow. Nevertheless, one can establish without mistake another thing -- the causes for the dangerously growing tension. In this troubled region the situation has become tense and continues to become tenser; not of itself, as they sometimes depict matters in the West, but as a result of premeditated actions by well known forces. I am referring -- and you have probably guessed, comrades -- to the Israeli expansionists and the imperialist circles of the United States.

As was noted in the recent replies to the newspaper PRAVDA by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, now -- I quote -- it is not only the Israeli troops but also the U.S. soldiers fighting against the Arabs. They are now taking part in the most direct fashion in the war in Lebanon against the local national patriotic forces. That is known. What is less well known, however, is that the so-called legal intervention by the United States and its NATO allies in Lebanon -- although, obviously, the word legal can only be used here in quotations, in the ironic sense -- where they have sent several thousand soldiers, is viewed in Washington as far from an isolated action. It is closely bound with the overall imperial policy of the United States in the Mediterranean basin and throughout the Near and Middle East. One gets the clear impression that the Lebanese operation has, as it were, a double purpose: On the one hand, Washington wishes to set up its military-strategic bridgehead in the eastern Mediterranean, and, on the other, to rehearse assault-landing and other military operations in combat rather than just raining conditions in this part of the world, a region which, incidentally, is situated not far at all from the southern borders of the socialist community.

[Kachanov] Dmitriy Antonovich, are there facts providing evidence of this U.S. approach to the Lebanon problem?

[Volskiy] Well, of course, we do not have at our disposal the staff instructions of the U.S. militarists, but what information has gotten into the press makes it possible to conclude that they view the interference in the affairs of Lebanon through the prism of their global strategy. First of all, the U.S. Marines making up the backbone of the NATO Multinational Force deployed in Lebanon are at the same time part of another force, not a NATO one but a purely American one, the punitive colonial Rapid Deployment Force. This is their forward-placed vanguard, as it were. But it is no secret that the Rapid Deployment Force, which now has a strength approaching 250,000 if not 300,000 officers and men, is targeted over an enormous region, from Kenya to Pakistan and Afghanistan. Around 20 independent African and Asian states are included within the sphere of action of the U.S. Central Command, to which the Rapid Deployment Force is subordinated. Is this not evidence of the intention to extend the Lebanon bridgehead, when possible, or to use it as a springboard for more wide-scale interventionist actions?

And another aide of the matter. Under the pretext of the Lebanese crisis, the United States has been pressing ahead with its build-up of the naval and Air Force military fist which was set up a long time back by the Americans and their allies in the Mediterranean. Suffice it to say that if until recently, only one U.S. aircraft-carrier formation was constantly there, now there are two. Moreover, the Mediterranean is now being ploughed not just by ships of the notorious U.S. 6th Fleet; the battleship New Jersey, for example, which can fire dozens of km into Lebanese territory, has been assigned to the 7th Fleet, which is operating in the basins of the Indian and Pacific Oceans. And here is another detail which is not without interest: The U.S. Mediterranean Fleet, as was reported recently by Navy Secretary Lehman, is 5 years ahead of other U.S. fleets in terms of armaments; and we are apparently talking about nuclear arms too, if one considers that the aircraft carriers there have quite a few aircraft capable of delivering nuclear bombs over a distance of up to 2,000 km.

The Americans are now also using the exacerbation of the Near East crisis to draw their NATO allies into it more broadly.

I will recall that that bloc's multinational force is deployed not just in Lebanon but also in Sinai; that is, NATO has, as it were, put two feet into the Near East, and that, of course, causes alarm and growing protests both in the Arab countries and in the West European states who are afraid that they are being drawn into a war contrary to their interests.

[Kachanov] Dmitriy Antonovich, you talk about the NATO countries but, after all, the biggest U.S. ally in the Near East is Israel. What, now, is the danger from that alliance?

[Volskiy] Well, not only have the United States and Israel concluded a formal strategic alliance where before there was a de facto one; with the recent formation of the U.S.-Israeli military committee one may say that the alliance is becoming a de jure one, an official de jure alliance, But the important thing is not the formal side of the matter but the practical content of this alliance. And what is that? Well, it was reported that it is proposed to set up U.S. bases and hospitals in Israel and to carry out joint maneuvers and coordinate military planning. In short, we are talking about more than a division of roles between the Israeli Army and the U.S. expeditionist forces; the question is about possible joint operations, for example to suppress the national patriotic forces of Lebanon, which is effectively taking place even now. U.S. aid to Israel is not ruled out, either, for anti-Palestinian actions, let us say in the north of Lebanon, or even for quelling uprisings by Palestinian Arabs on the West Bank of the River Jordan and in Gaza. The Kuwaiti newspapers the other day also exposed even further-reaching plans envisaging joint actions by the United States and Israel to establish military control over the oil-producing regions of the Arab world. But the most direct and dangerous thing are the threats against Syria with which Washington and Tel Aviv are now coming out with in a clearly synchronized fashion. But Syria is standing firm, which was again demonstrated by the recent statements of President al-Asad. In Lebanon there is growing resistance to the Israeli occupationists in the south of the country, where they are coming up against a real partisan war.

Opposition from the Lebanese population is also being encountered by the NATO Multinational Force. And in the other occupied region, on the West Bank of the Jordan River and the Gaza Strip, demonstrations and protests against Israeli occupation are not dying down. Under these conditions, even the conservative Arab regimes are not resolving, at any rate openly, to go along with Washington. Its political maneuvers fail one after another, and the U.S. plans for a pseudosettlement in the neocolonialist manner are turning out to be still-born. Now, the Reagan administration is threatening to use weapons -- and in fact is using them -- in order to push through such plans, in particular the notorious Near East plan advanced a year and a half ago and bearing the name of the current President. The majority of Arabs have rejected this Reagan plan because it ignores the rights of the Palestinians and leads to the establishment of U.S.-Israeli domination in the Near East region. And when diplomatic pressure is complemented with military pressure, then this brings not just protests but growing indignation among the Arab masses and an increase of anti-imperialist sentiment which, incidentally, was encountered by the new U.S. envoy, Rumsfeld, who is traveling around the Near East capitals.

At the same time one cannot but note that the Near East problem is becoming one of the themes of the U.S. election campaign. It works out that, having sent troops to Lebanon, President Reagan has trapped himself, as it were: He is afraid of bringing them out but at the same time is afraid of leaving them there because but both may undermine his position in the forthcoming U.S. elections. In brief, time in the Near East is not on the side of the Reagan administration nor of its alliance with Tel Aviv. It ultimately favors the truly fair and therefore reliable settlement of the Near East conflict invariably advocated by the USSR and all progressive forces.

[Kachanov] Thank you, Dmitriy Antonovich.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD051923 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 5 Feb 84

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Andrey Serafimovich Grachev, writer on international affairs; Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Lebedev, department head at the magazine MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN; and Aleksandr Vladimirovich Zholkver, political observer for Central Television and All-Union Radio]

Andropov PRAVDA Interview

[Text] [Zholkver] Hello, comrades! Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov's replies to PRAVDA questions remained the center of world attention for the whole of last week. These replies fully reflect the principled foreign policy line of the Communist Party and the Soviet state. They contain a package of large-scale measures designed to achieve practical agreements and freeze, limit, and reduce nuclear weapons based on the principle of equality and equal security, and to improve the international situation on the whole. It is stated in the CPSU Central Committee's appeal to the electorate that the statements of Comrade Andropov in his replies to PRAVDA's questions give a profound and comprehensive evaluation of the causes of the present complication of the international situation is given. They confirm the consistent foreign political course of our party. They express the common will of the Soviet people for peace and their resoluteness to firmly resist Washington's declared crusade against socialism.

I shall recall, comrades, though only briefly, the most important peace initiatives of our country. Among them, above all, is the pledge of the USSR not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. If the United States also adopted this pledge it would mean that there would be neither first nor subsequent nuclear attacks. Member states of the Warsaw Pact have proposed to NATO countries the conclusion of a treaty on mutual non-use of military force of either nuclear or conventional weapons. Our proposals to reduce armed forces and arms in Central Europe have been on the negotiation table in Vienna for a long time. The Soviet Union has also put forward concrete proposals on how to remove the threat of the use of force in space and has invited the United States to start talks immediately on this question. At the conference in Stockholm, the USSR submitted the draft of various measures to strengthen trust and security in Europe. These include the reduction of military spending, advance notification of large-scale military exercises, and the creation of non-nuclear zones in various regions of Europe. As it is known, the USSR and other socialist countries also put forward recently a proposal to free Europe of chemical weapons. I think that last week's events confirm clearly that these proposals and initiatives are consonant with the wishes of the peoples of various countries.

[Lebedev] Yes, you are quite right, Aleksandr Vladimirovich. Reports show that the proposals put forward in replies and statements by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov and in a speech at the Stockholm conference by Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko have immediately found both a broad and positive response from the most varied cirlces of the public and also many distinguished politicians consider these proposals to be constructive. I would like in this connection to quote the words of Geoffrey Howe, the British foreign secretary, in an interview in connection with the visit of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to Hungary. The tone of Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov's interview is encouraging, Geoffrey Howe said, and its contents appear to be constructive; it is very important for all leaders of the West to realize its significance. Another such reaction is that of Pierre Trudeau, the prime minister of Canada, at a press conference held on 31 January in Berlin during his recent visit to the GDR. He said openly that in his opinion the Prague Political Declaration of the Warsaw Pact member states had been studied insufficiently in the West. This document, he said, contains a number of positive, concrete proposals which NATO could accept. In general, all these events highlight, so to speak, both the nature and continuity of the peace offensive of the countries in the socialist community.

[Grachev] I would like to add to your reflections.

[Lebedev] Please do, Andrey Serafimovich.

[Grachev] I would like to say this: I think that the reason why the interest in Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov's replies in PRAVDA remains undiminished is obvious. The fact is that they contain very important, principled, and at the same time, I would say, harsh and even perhaps sobering words -- and necessarily so -- for our political partners, and if you like, our political opponents. They are words about the state of the present international situation, on the causes for it on the source of its deterioration, and on the problems that have to be solved by the states in the international arena. At the same time, as you have already said, Aleksandr Vladimirovich, this document contains a concrete, quite concrete and realistic program of the necessary steps that have to be taken, and to be taken jointly, in order to take the world out of the present deadlock to which it was led by the confrontational policy above all of the U.S. Administration and also those member states of NATO that shoulder the responsibility for the very, I would say, risky and, in the end, dangerous step of starting the deployment of new U.S. nuclear missiles in Western Europe. These are the reasons why Yuriy Vladimirovich's replies, containing a blueprint for a way out of the international situation along the path of international cooperation, are not disappearing from newspaper pages and from television screens.

[Zholkver] Yes, and in the appeal of the CPSU Central Committee it is also stressed that despite the complex military-political situation there is no need to dramatize it. Soviet people have strong nerves, and we have enough strength and means to defend the interests of the USSR and its friends and allies, and the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government will continue also the in future to tirelessly look after the strengthening of the defense ability of the country, equipping the armed forces with all that is necessary for the defense of socialist achievements. Aleksandr Aleksandrovich, you have spoken about the continuing peace offensive of the socialist countries. Indeed, events of the last week have many times over confirmed this. So, for example, during the visit of a party and government delegation headed by Comrade Gromyko to Romania, both sides expressed their wish to contribute in every way to the continuation of the process started by the meeting on security and cooperation in Europe. In this connection they stressed the need to make all efforts for the Stockholm conference to be conducted on a businesslike and constructive level, so that it contributes to the achievement of agreements that would indeed serve the consolidation of trust and security on the continent.

Or take for instance the visit to France by Comrade Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. During his conversation with President Mitterrand, the two sides expressed their conviction of the necessity to further expanding the Soviet-French dialogue, which is assuming increasing significance in the present tense atmosphere on the European Continent and in the world. In the course of the meeting with Prime Minister Mauroy, both sides stressed the great importance of Soviet-French relations in strengthening stability and socio-political systems. Indeed the commercial-economic and scientific-technical cooperation between our country and France is developing successfully. I can point out that in the 1980-1983 period the trade turnover between our countries amounted to R15.7 billion, which is 70 percent greater than the volume of trade between the USSR and France during the whole of the preceding 5-year period. During the latest visit a protocol was signed for a long-term program for expanding economic, industrial and technical cooperation between the USSR and France in the 1980-1990 period. Thus the effectiveness of the policy of peaceful coexistence was clearly demonstrated and yet again during the past week. It is of interest to note Washington's position on all these very important current issues. This is now doubly significant since, as we all know, President Reagan officially announced recently that he is going to seek reelection for a second term in office, for a second mandate as president.

U.S. 'Distorted' Statements

[Grachev] You are quite right, Aleksandr Vladimirovich. If I may return to where our conversation began, yet another reason for the extremely great significance of the replies which Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov gave to PRAVDA questions lies in the fact that his replies contain that very truth -- harsh truth I would say -- about the real situation in the world, which is being consciously suppressed and, more precisely, distorted in the statements made by the present U.S. leaders. A leitmotiv, if I may so call it, present in all statements by the U.S. President and reiterated at a second and third level by U.S. Administration spokesmen, is the argument that: we and the whole world have lately been living in conditions of greater security. This is of course a demagogic and false argument; It is refuted by statements made by not only many European, including West European, statesmen but it is also refuted, it is overturned by statements made by Americans themselves, and not only by President Reagan's political opponents from the Democratic Party but also by ordinary Americans in the anti-war movement which is growing in the United States as well as in Western Europe. Who lives in conditions of greater security? Is it Europe, where the new U.S. missiles have now appeared and which is turning as a result, as the Soviet Union warned, into a possible target for a retaliatory nuclear strike in the event -- against which there is no insurance, knowing the present U.S. Administration's predisposition to adventurism -- of a possible start of a nuclear conflict? It cannot be Europe, surely. Is it perhaps the Middle East? But we all know from reports coming in every day about more and more casualties caused there as a result of the activities of Israel, armed with American-made weapons and the activities of the Americans themselves. So it cannot be the Middle East either. But the paradox is that the United States itself cannot and does not feel itself to be more secure 3 years after Reagan came to power. It does not feel itself to be more secure, also, in connection with the fact that the Soviet Union is undertaking measures in response to the deployment of the new U.S. nuclear missiles in Western Europe. Many U.S. commentators and U.S. press correspondents already note that the Americans have begun to feel less cosy in the new strategic situation.

[Zholkver] All opinion polls unequivocally show Americans thinking to the contrary, that now the position of the United States has become more vulnerable and the threat of nuclear catastrophe has become much greater.

[Lebedev] Nearly half of those polled, according to Gallup figures, in what I have read...

[Zholvker] Yes, also Harris figures...

[Lebedev] ...indicate that nearly half, 47 percent, or at any rate, over 40 percent of the American people are of the opinion that Reagan and his policy have brought the United States closer to war.

[Grachev] Quite so. I could continue this somewhat paradoxical line -- one that is, I would say, a tragic paradox which amounts to this: that apparently even the White House now feels less secure than it did 3 years ago, or it would not have had to surround itself with antitank obstacles and antiaircraft defense batteries, as the President's guards now do as protection against imaginary terrorists. Martin Luther King in his time said, as you might remember, during the Vietnam war period, that the bombs being dropped by the U.S. Air Force over Vietnam explode in the streets of American towns. So it seems to me that the policy of state terrorism which Washington is trying to export to the most diverse parts of the world is coming back to the United States like a boomerang, both in the form of lead coffins, in which many Americans -- yes, growing numbers of U.S. marines -- are sent back home, and also in the form of the atmosphere of fear which in fact is gripping the White House, too, and causing increasing concern among the people of the United States.

[Zholkver] This was expressed by no less a personage than Senator Kennedy, who said: What security can we speak of when the arms race threatens to get out of control at any moment, when the administration in its Latin American policy relies on alliance with repressive regimes, when U.S. Marines are taking part in military operations and dying in Lebanon? We have now touched upon the theme of this demonstrative U.S. love of peace -- it is demonstrated of course in Lebanon, in Central America, and it is displayed in the United States as well, particularly now, in connection with the adoption of the new U.S. budget for 1985.

U.S. Budget, 'Superiority'

[Zholkver] In the United States the budget or fiscal year does not coincide with the calendar year, it begins in October, and President Reagan is already making preparations. He has introduced a draft budget in Congress, where it is now being debated. It proposes the largest increase in the military budget in peacetime ever. If one counts in not just the Pentagon, since part of the spending goes on, say...

[Grachev]... Department of Energy, other matters...

[Zholkver]... atomic matters, then something in the region of $313 billion is being allocated.

[Grachev] This is approximately one-third of the budget spending in a deficit budget.

[Zholkver] Yes, or approximately $1 billion per day, as the Americans reckon, is to be spent on military purpose in the United States.

[Grachev] Quite right. In percentage terms, too, this is a fantastic increase. This means an increase by 19 percent over the current fiscal year. U.S. observers have noted that this will be the heftiest U.S. military budget in the entire postwar period, surpassing the U.S. military budgets at the height of the Korean or Vietnam wars.

I would like to return to the theme of the demonstrative love of peace, and show how the new budget proposed by the U.S. Administration blows to pieces the U.S. President's own claims. I think that in this sphere President Reagan is using stepped-up peace-loving demagogy to try and conceal the very real hollowness of the American position. Not so long ago Reagan began to talk very vigorously about the need to breathe new life into Soviet-American dialogue, as if after 3 years in the White House he at least had grasped that this is a most important instrument of preserving and consolidating peace in the whole world. But it remains to be seen what is meant by "dialogue." Is it "dialogue for dialogue's sake," or, even more pointless, is it a dialogue which, in Reagan's design, should conceal the continuation of the U.S. course of aggression with regard to the Soviet Union as well as to other countries in the world?

[Zholkver] A course of attaining military superiority.

[Grachev] Quite right. Not so long ago Reagan made a curious remark. At a press conference he said that in his view the beginning of deployment of U.S. missiles in Europe is also an element in the talks on reducing the medium-range nuclear systems in Europe.

[Zholkver] Reduction by increasing.

[Grachev] You can see the logic of it: dialogue for the sake of dialogue, and talks on reduction for the sake of actually increasing the nuclear armaments in Europe.

I think this is precisely why the stipulation in the replies by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov to questions from the newspaper PRAVDA that the Soviet Union does not intend to take part in such a game, that we will judge whether the United States seriously intends to conduct a dialogue with us by the practical actions of the U.S. Administration is especially important. I think that the administration's practical actions are extremely indicative and that they speak for themselves, so as draft of the future budget and specific manifestation of U.S. policy show.

U.S. 'Position of Strength'

[Lebedev] Yes. I would like to say a few words about this, Andrey Serafimovich. It seems to me this screen of words about a love of peace and this game about which Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov speaks are already clearly failing, in my view, to achieve their objective. In other words, both competent -- so to speak -- political circles and broad circles of ordinary people in the West realize that, generally speaking, all this is hypocrisy, falsity and, sometimes, pure lies -- so to speak.

[Zholkver] It has to be said that on more than one occasion U.S. journalists have actually gotten Reagan into a corner.

For example, I saw an ABC program which included an interview with the President. It is interesting that twice in a row the observer saked him the very same question: How can you prove to us the assertion that we now have greater security?

[Lebedev] And he did not reply.

[Zholkver] He did not reply.

[Lebedev] He hemmed and hawed but did not give any reply.

[Zholkver] Yes. And furthermore, after this, since there had been no reply, the American observer asked what I would term a rhetorical question: How long will the people of our country have to wait for your philosophy, envisaging the conduct of negotiations from a position of strength, to produce results since people are frightened at the moment?

As far as this philosophy of holding talks from a position of strength is concerned, in his replies Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov said quite definitely that a so-called position-of-strength diplomacy has no future in connection with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries.

What's more, in our nuclear missile age it is dangerous.

[Grachev] Unfortuntately, the deception is not only verbal. Deception and, I would say, an unconscientious attidue to international undertakings are basically becoming normal behavior for the U.S. Administration. And the most graphic illustration of this is the attitude of the Americans to the treaties on the limitation and control of armaments which they themselves have concluded.

[Lebedev] Even to those few agreements which exist.

[Zholkver] And attention is drawn to this in the memorandum which was passed by the Soviet Embassy in Washington to the State Department the other day. The memorandum points out that in a number of cases the U.S. side is simply refusing to adhere to specific, legal commitments in the field of arms limitation which it has adopted and is even taking action to evade these commitments. You spoke about the deployment of U.S. missiles in Western Europe. After all, these missiles can hit targets on the territory of the Soviet Union. For the United States they are really strategic weapons. In this way the U.S. side has acted in violation of the provisions of the SALT II treaty on the limitation of strategic armaments. And it has to be said that one cannot fail to be concerned also by certain U.S. actions in regard to the treaty on the limitation of anti-missile defense systems, which is of indefinite duration.

[Grachev] Incidentally, this is an extremely important treaty, on which, in general, the concept of international stability and military-strategic equilibrium between the nuclear powers in our epoch is based. How can one regard the program announced by Reagan for a so-called star wars as indicating anything other than a wish to undermine the basis of this treaty -- or for that matter, the attempts to set up in space, to deploy in space something which is just fantasy at the moment but which nevertheless has already received...

[Lebedev] ...and which is already being developed...

[Grachev] ...Has already received millions of quite real dollars for its development.

[Zholkver] Yes, there is Special Directive No 119. The U.S. press itself has written about this. This directive was signed by Reagan back in January. In this directive quite specific funding is mentioned for these preparations, so to speak, for star wars. It is intriguing, incidentally, that this worries U.S. scientists themselves. I saw a report by the Federation of U.S. Scientists. The report warns that unless the United States halts the testing of its anti-satellite weapons, they could initiate an arms race in space, fraught with unpredictable and potentially tragic consequences. That is the view of the U.S. scientists, and they call for the acceptance of Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov's proposal for the prevention of an arms race in space and an early start to talks on this question.

U.S. UNESCO Decision

[Grachev] In short, one can evidently say quite definitely that, unfortunately, nothing specific lies behind the so-called softening of the tone of the latest speeches by the U.S. President, apart from the continuation of the same old aggressive, militaristic course. I would like to draw attention to another somewhat unexpected aspect of the United States' behavior on the international arena. In its way it is, I would say, the logical continuation of that self-same policy of blackmail towards other states which they are following in their foreign policy activities in general. I am referring to the announcement made by the U.S. Administration at the end of last year that the United States intends to leave the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, UNESCO, as of 1 January 1985, unless this organization changes its policy. You see, even the wording is, I would say, disheartening by its frankness.

[Zholkver] The wording is imperial.

[Grachev] Yes, this is the wording of blackmail. This is the wording of dictat towards a very representative international organization. On 1 February, Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov's answer to a letter from Amadou Mahtar M'bow, the director-general of this organization, was published in our press. In this reply Yuriy Vladimirovich expressed the Soviet Union's support for the work of this much respected organization for the sake of peace and international cooperation.

One should mention that at the same time a wide variety of states came out in support of UNESCO. They included the members of the Islamic Conference Organization, the ministers of information of the Nonaligned Movement, who gathered in Jakarta several days ago for their conference, and even a whole number of Western states. For example, when Mauroy, the French prime minister, received Amadou Mahtar M'bow recently, he expressed to him the French Government's full support for the work of this organization.

So, just look at the paradox which results. The Americans leave UNESCO, they threaten to expel the UN from their territory. But where do they go themselves at the same time? They invade Grenada, they send their troops to Lebanon, they send their missiles to Western Europe, they withdraw their diplomats and send their Marines instead. From this point of view I think that the remark made by the publisher of one of the U.S. journals was quite justified. He said that UNESCO is the Grenada of the UN. The attitude of the United States to this organization faithfully reflected the imperial, inexcusable and insolent behavior of the United States on the international arena.

[Zholkver] One truly has to say that the main task of the present day is to uphold peace, to prevent a nuclear catastrophe. The Soviet Union is waging the struggle for the solution of this main task of the present day together with all the peace-loving forces of the planet. The Party Central Committee's address to the voters stresses that even in today's acute situation the CPSU will not back away from the peace program adopted by its congresses. The address stresses that in voting for the candidates of the bloc of Communists and non-party people, you, comrades, will be voting for the Leninist foreign policy whose invariable goals are the guaranteeing of lasting peace and universal security, the expansion and intensification of cooperation among states and the protection of the peoples' rights to independence and social progress.

At this point we conclude our program. Thank you, comrades, for taking part in it. Thank you, comrade listeners, for your attention.

USSR SEEKS $150 MILLION LOAN FROM WESTERN BANKS

OW040121 Tokyo KYODO in English 0111 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] London, Feb 3 KYODO -- The Soviet Union has sought a 150 million dollar loan from Western banks in what is expected to be Moscow's largest borrowing in four years, international finance sources said Friday.

The request was made through Dresdner Bank A.G., a major West German commercial bank, the sources said. Banks in Austria, Canada and Finland have shown interest in the loan, Dresdner said. Japanese and U.S. banks may possibly join a lending syndicate, it said.

The proposed five-year loan is expected to carry an interest rate equivalent to the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) -- currently 9-10 percent per annum -- plus a 0.75 percent commission.

Half the loan is to be repaid by the end of the fourth year, with the other half in the fifth year.

ARBATOV VIEWS WORK OF PALME, BRANDT COMMISSIONS

PM031420 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English 29 Jan 84 pp 1, 6

[Aleksandr Bangerskiy interview with Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme and Georgiy Arbatov, director of the United States of America and Canada Institute: "Rome Dialogues"]

[Text] The first joint meeting of the Independent Commission on Disarmament and Security (Palme Commission) and the Commission on International Development (Brandt Commission) brought noted politicians and public figures from many countries to Rome.

Olof Palme, Prime Minister of Sweden: 'Much Can Be Done'

"We met to discuss the connection between problems of international security and economic development." Olof Palme, Chairman of the Commission on Disarmament and Security, told MOSCOW NEWS correspondent Aleksandr Bangerskiy. "The international situation has deteriorated considerably in recent years. The threat of war, including nuclear war, which would spell the end of mankind, has been growing constantly with the increase of armaments requiring colossal means. At the same time, poverty keeps increasing in the world. The situation is becoming more and more critical. The governments must display a political will in order to take specific practical measures for peaceful development."

Question: What must be done to achieve this?

Answer: Start disarming. It is possible to begin with both nuclear weapons and conventional armaments. It is possible to halt the scientific and technical improvement of weaponry and ban the introduction of new types. If there is a will, much can be done. A start could be made by carrying out the recommendation of our commission on freezing the deployment of all types of nuclear weapons in the USA and the USSR and the means of their delivery for a year in order to pave the way to resuming the Geneva talks. This moratorium would create more favourable conditions for limiting and reducing nuclear armaments.

Question: But in the USA they say that the new programmes for increasing armaments have been adopted precisely for the sake of peace and greater security. What are your comments?

Answer: Indeed, when increasing armaments, it is always said that this is done for the sake of security, but experience has shown that in reality instability increases and danger grows. For example, the plans for putting weapons into outer space are fraught with horrible, unpredictable consequences.

Georgiy Arbatov, Academician, Director of the United States of America and Canada Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences: 'To Go Back, One Has To Stop.'

Question: How do you assess the results of the Rome meeting of the commissions?

Answer: In this difficult time not a single commission is capable of radically changing the world situation. But I think that our commission made a definite contribution to the great discussion now going on around the questions of war and peace, and the arms race. The final statement, as I see it, gave a very realistic assessment of the existing danger and justifiably emphasized the need for urgent measures in order to stop the trend towards an even further deterioration of the world situation. Among the measures proposed by the Palme Commission, I will mention the one-year moratorium on deploying all types of nuclear armaments. This proposal could become the first step in limiting the arms race. After all, to go back, one has to stop.

As a result of the discussions, a compromise was ultimately found, which, however, was entered only in the document of the Palme Commission, since it gave rise to objections from Edward Heath, member of the Commission on International Development. The document of our commission also includes other proposals: ban the production of chemical weapons, adopt a treaty on ending all nuclear weapon tests and agree on preventing the arms race in outer space.

The joint work of the two commissions demonstrated that the developing nations are also greatly alarmed by the buildup of armaments in Europe and the rest of the world. They are immediately interested in solving these problems. In recent years the connection between their interests and the interests of international security has become obvious to them.

Question: How do you assess the world situation?

Answer: It is very dangerous. New types of weapons are being invented with alarming speed, and the risk of a nuclear conflict has grown. Such a conflict, as the joint document of the two commissions emphasizes, would make humanity's further existence impossible. However, illusions concerning a "limited nuclear war", in which victory would be possible still persist.

Unfortunately, no way out of this situation is in sight. And everything which is now presented as a way out -- I mean the recent speech by President Reagan and also the statement of Secretary of State Shultz in Stockholm -- these are all attempts to give the appearance of a change of position, and a desire to organize relations with the Soviet Union. These are pseudo-initiatives designed to mislead public opinion and thereby evade a genuine solution, since these statements are not backed by any deeds. In these statements there is a definite danger: purely psychologically people are so eager to see a flash of light at the end of the tunnel that they snatch at everything that gives even a semblance of hope.

So far, however, the situation has not improved. The talks have been interrupted, and no matter how hard the Western politicians try to assure that this is not so terrible, that soon everything will be well, in fact everyone understands that the beginning of the deployment of the American "Euromissiles" has dealt a big blow to international stability and arms limitation. It cannot be hoped that the Stockholm conference will be able to put together all the plates and dishes which the Americans and their allies have broken in recent years. Stockholm cannot solve all the problems. But this does not mean that they are insoluble in general.

The Soviet Union has made a whole number of important proposals -- for example, not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, to conclude an agreement on the non-use of force between the NATO and Warsaw Treaty member-countries. These proposals could radically change the situation, but the West still dismisses them and it is clear why in Western Europe Washington and its allies see their aim not in security and disarmament but, conversely, in the buildup of tensions and the arms race. One is linked with the other: To get fantastic funds for armaments it is necessary to frighten people and to achieve this tensions must be built up.

For this policy any agreements are objectionable and no, especially successful, talks are necessary. But a very important thing has happened -- the growth of tensions gave an impetus to a powerful antinuclear movement. The world has not seen anything like it so far. These are no longer individual groups of people who are aware of the danger; it is a movement involving the most diverse sections of the population -- young people, church representatives, generals and what is the most important, the broad popular masses. Politicians cannot fail to listen to their voice.

REAGAN REAFFIRMS ADHERANCE TO 'DAMAGING' POLICY

LD042207 Moscow TASS in English 2149 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Washington February 4 TASS -- President Reagan's address is characterized by the desire to put pressure on his political opponents and impel them to stop their criticism of the White House's damaging policy at home and worldwide. Ronald Reagan made it absolutely clear that he is not going to abandon the course directed at spiralling the arms race, aggravating the international situation and lowering living standards of the Americans. The President ruled out, for example, the withdrawal of troops from Lebanon, leaving without attention the numerous calls by the American public for an end to the United States' armed interference in that country. The President reaffirmed his adherence to the policy of sharp escalation of U.S. military, political and economic intervention in the affairs of Central America.

U.S., SOVIET DEFENSE EXPENDITURE CONTRASTED

LD041743 Moscow World Service in English 1400 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Our commentator, Yuriy Soltan, analyzes the draft of the United States' federal budget for the next fiscal year, outlined by the White House and submitted to Congress:

The President supplied the draft with a traditional message. Like in his recent speech Ronald Reagan stressed that what his administration started 3 weeks ago has not been finished and has to be finished. What did he mean? Simple calculations give the answer. According to the draft every third dollar of the budget is to be spent on preparations for war. The Pentagon intends to get hold of over $313,000 million, which is almost 19 percent more than it spent last year. The Pentagon will be consuming $1,000 million almost every day.

We would like to remind you that in the Soviet Union defense spending has remained unchanged for several years. In 1984 it will amount to 4.66 percent of the national budget.

To justify the insatiable appetites of the Defense Department the head of the Pentagon, Caspar Weinberger, resorted to rhetoric. He described as a paradox of peace the policy of the arms race and military operations, or to put it correctly the policy of American brigandage in Grenada and Lebanon. In general, Caspar Weinberger said a peacemaker should be ready to use force and use it successfully. Such phraseology has become usual for members of the American Administration and the President himself. Whom do they hope to deceive?

Now the United States and NATO have over 40,000 nuclear charges. Even a portion of this arsenal is sufficient for incinerating our planet. If it has such a great store of nuclear weapons why does the Reagan administration build them up so stubbornly, launch the production of new types of nuclear arms and deploy first-strike nuclear missiles in West European countries closer to the borders of the socialist community? Because members of the administration, both those in uniform and those without, think of war not of peace. They stake on reaching military domination over the Soviet Union, NATO superiority over Warsaw Treaty countries. Washington strategists think this can help them to win a nuclear war.

The draft of the new United States budget, a war budget, proves that scripts of such a war are being written in Washington. To calm their countrymen American leaders are saying that there is no need to worry because the war can be limited and, at worst, only Europe or some other continent will suffer while America will be safely protected by a nuclear shield. But even American authorities on nuclear physics say that there is no such shield and that it's immpossible to build it, like it's impossible to limit a nuclear war.

The main problem which the Soviet Union is urging to solve is not to stockpile more missiles, planes, and submarines but to rule out the possibility of the use of nuclear weapons. Even if someone had illusions about the possibility of a change in the policies of the present administration for the better the practical steps of the administration disperse these illusions. While speaking of peace, the White House thinks in terms of war and acts accordingly.

REAGAN SEEKS FUNDS FOR 'PSYCHOLOGICAL WAR'

LD032147 Moscow TASS in English 1822 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Moscow February 3 TASS -- By TASS news analyst Leonid Ponomarev.

President Ronald Reagan's new budget envisages, along with a huge increase in military spending which will reach $313.4 billion in fiscal 1985, a sharp rise in allocations for psychological warfare worldwide -- by 23 percent. The United States Information Agency (USIA), engaged in large-scale psychological war against socialist and many other nations, spreading of misinformation and advertizing of the Reagan administration's militarist course, is to receive an unprecedented sum of $849 million.

The bulk of the money is earmarked for ideological subversion, organization of smear campaigns and gross interference in the internal affairs of socialist countries. The agency's more than a hundred radio transmitters, scattered around the world, used chiefly by the notorious "Voice of America" and 206 USIA centres beam their programmes round-the-clock, spread printed materials and broadcast special television features containing malicious fabrications about socialist countries, home and foreign policy of the Soviet Union.

The U.S. leaders bluntly declare that they would like to reshape the world according to their imperialist views and their notions of "civilized life" on earth. Raw military force is used to carry off these crazy ideas, which is vividly evidenced by the American armed seizure of Grenada, expansion of U.S. military interference in Lebanon and armed provocations in Central America. Facts show that Reagan's foreign policy course is increasingly more a purely military line aimed at attaining the absurd objective of world hegemony. Psychological aggression, comprising psychological attacks at the Soviet Union and its peace policy, is an integral part of Reagan's global "crusade" against the socialist community.

Washington's political actions show that Reagan and his team reject peaceful-coexistence with the Soviet Union, staking on force and confrontation and striving for military superiority over the USSR. The essence of their policies makes itself apparent in Western Europe where the United States is fielding its new nuclear missiles. Simultaneously, it is launching a drive against anti-nuclear and anti-war campaigners both in Europe and the United States.

In accordance with Reagan's logic, those who favour the elimination of nuclear weapons behave "unpatriotically," while those who are prepared to plunge the world into nuclear holocaust are true "patriots." It is hardly possible to imagine anything more absurd and cynical. Still, such is the conviction of the Washington rulers.

The fact that the Reagan administration requests this immense sum for purposes of psychological and propaganda framing-up of the world public says that the White House chief intends to continue his hegemonistic, militarist course that worries peoples throughout the world.

MISSION OF SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER VIEWED

'Militarization' of Space

LD032126 Moscow TASS in English 1724 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] New York February 3 TASS -- The re-usable spaceship "Challenger" under the shuttle program has been launched from the Cape Canaveral, Florida, today.

The flight of the "Challenger" spaceship is a major stage in furthering the Reagan administration's dangerous plans of militarization of outer space. As is noted by the newspaper WASHINGTON TIMES, re-usable spaceships are to become a powerful weapon in the American arsenal.

Military crews for would-be spaceship flights are undergoing training at the Lyndon Johnson Center of manned spaceships in Houston, Texas. Besides, as was reported by UPI, the center is now conducting full reconstruction of the entire system of flight control and processing of the information received, with exclusive orientation to programs of the Defense Department. A limited number of people, closely linked with the Pentagon, will have an access to information when such flights take place.

Directive Number 119, which was signed by President Reagan, provides evidence of the U.S. Administration's plans to create in outer space a first strike potential. In accordance with that document, the Pentagon is to work out fundamentally new types and systems of outer space-based military equipment, specifically combatant orbital stations with laser, beam, and other types of weapons abroad. The United States now has about 100 military satellites. The arsenal is planned to be largely expanded.

The first flight of a re-usable spaceship exclusively in military purposes with secret cargo aboard is planned for June this year. According to the TIME magazine, such experiments were already conducted in the course of the shuttle program. The U.S. Defense Department "reserved" to itself more than a third of the flights under the program over a period of up to 1994.

Failure of 'Target' Experiment

LD051859 Moscow TASS in English 1843 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] New York February 5 TASS -- An experiment envisaged by the flight program of the American space shuttle Challenger has been a failure. A container with a folded inflated plastic balloon was set adrift from the Challenger's cargo hold. But during an attempt to fill the balloon with nitrogen it disintegrated.

The balloon was meant to simulate a "target" for practising the Challenger's maneuvers of finding and linking with orbiting satellites. As there was only one container with an inflated balloon on board the "Challenger", all the planned manoeuvres to practise linking with the "target" have been cancelled.

The failure of the experiment with the "target" satellite is already the second mishap in the course of the current flight. On Friday was lost a "Westar-6" communication satellite, which was brought into the orbit in the Challenger's cargo hold. After separation from the spaceship the propulsion system was to be switched on for transferring the satellite into a higher orbit. According to some reports, 45 minutes after the satellite was separated from the spaceship, the propulsion system exploded while being switched on.

More on Lost Satellite

LD051056 Moscow World Service in English 1000 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] Ground services tracking the flight of the U.S. spacecraft Challenger have discovered fragments of an unidentified space body. It is believed that the fragments are what has remained of the satellite launched from aboard the Challenger on the first day of its flight. The debris is moving behind the craft at a distance of about 30 miles. The crew lost all contact with the satellite as soon as it separated from the craft.

In the opinion of experts, the satellite's engine unit might have caught fire and blown up as a result.

U.S. SPECIALISTS ' CORROBORATE' USSR KAL POSITION

LD060130 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Vladimir Pozner commentary]

[Excerpts] Some of you may recall that at the height of the furor over the KAL-007 incident there appeared in the DENVER POST an article written by two former U.S. Air Force communications intelligence specialists. Their story appeared after President Reagan had first denied the existence of an RC-135 surveillance aircraft in the area. then admitted there had been one but insisted that it had left the vicinity and had been back at its base in Alaska a full hour before the KAL-007 flight was terminated.

What Bernard and Eskelson wrote in the DENVER POST corroborated the Soviet position, that Flight 007 has been deliberately sent into Soviet airspace; that it had been shadowed by RC-135 aircraft; that other surveillance capabilities had been brought into play by satellites, ships, and AWACS aircraft; that the aim had been to put the Soviet defense system on alert and, should the flight be terminated, capitalize on an anti-Soviet campaign while also collecting much desired spy data. But even though it was pretty well well-stifled, the Bernard-Eskelson story got back to the White House. And the White House didn't like it. At all. Especially since the data on the 007 was becoming more and more damaging. So whoever it is that calls the signals, called them, and 007 gradually disappeared from the columns, the airwaves, and the screens.

Memories began to dim. But not all memories, you understand, which is why Bernard and Eskelson were just recently informed by an FBI agent acting on the NSA's request that they had violated the U.S. espionage act. This was reported in last Friday's edition of THE WASHINGTON POST, which also stated that the two men had been told to check with officials at the National Security Agency before making any further disclosures.

That the Soviet intelligence services are well aware of the importance of RC-135 aircraft needs no explanation. The disclosures made by Bernard and Eskelson were not news to the Soviet Union in any way. But those disclosures did damage President Reagan and the credibility of his administration, which is why the two men are not in hot water while simultaneously warning is being served on whoever else might think of making disclosures in the future. Freedom of speech is fine -- as long as you don't say too much.

U.S. 'Hounding' Bernard, Eskelson

LD032202 Moscow TASS in English 1937 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Washington February 3 TASS -- TASS correspondent Maxim Knyazkov reports:

The Reagan administration is mercilessly hounding those who expose its brazen lines. This is shown by the campaign of the hounding of former members of staff of the National Security Agency T. Bernard and E. Eskelson launched by the U.S. authorities. Their revelations shattered the false version of the White House about the events connected with the CIA-masterminded provocation involving a South Korean airliner. The newspaper WASHINGTON POST reports that the FBI notified them that their publication of the information about the activity of U.S. special services in the Far Eastern area is a breach of law.

In September last T. Bernard and E. Eskelson revealed espionage operations of the National Security Agency to the newspaper DENVER POST. Their article actually brought to nought the overt efforts of official Washington to absolve itself of the responsibility for the perishing of innocent people as a result of an espionage operation in the Far East with the use of a South Korean plane, the operation that had been planned by the U.S. special services. The former members of staff of the National Security Agency who themselves more than once took flights on board the U.S. reconnaissance planes in the Far Eastern area revealed that "air spies" of the USA had many times made attempts to penetrate the Soviet territory in order to register the position of electronic system of the anti-aircraft defence. There is no doubt that during the joint provocation with the "Boeing-747" they were in touch by radio with U.S. and Japanese ground services.

Therefore assertions of the Reagan administration that it had allegedly been impossible to warn the pilot of the South Korean airliner about the "error" are simply not true. T. Bernard and E. Eskelson pointed out the U.S. special services had deliberately used the plane of the South Korean airlines for their purposes. Moreover, crews of the U.S. reconnaissance planes RC-135 which are constantly patrolling areas of the Far East quite often are given directives by the National Security Agency to invade on purpose the air space of some or other country in order to "activate" the anti-aircraft defences and register its characteristics.

Caught at a blatant lie, the Washington provocateurs are eager to victimise T. Bernard and E. Eskelson. Because of the recent decrees of the White House about the tightening of the regime of secrecy a threat of imprisonment looms over them.

KOVALENKO CONFIRMS ARKHIPOV TO VISIT PRC

OW040831 Tokyo KYODO in English 0813 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 4 KYODO -- A highly-placed Soviet Communist Party official Saturday confirmed press reports Soviet First Vice Premier Ivan Arkhipov will visit China this year to improve bilateral relations.

In an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE, Ivan Kovalenko, deputy chief of the International Department, said Arkhipov, no. 2 man in the Soviet Government, will go to Beijing at the Chinese invitation. In return, China will send a high ranking official to Moscow, he said.

Reports from the Chinese capital said Arkhipov may make the China visit in May after U.S. President Ronald Reagan's Beijing visit the previous month. If realized, it will be the first top-level contact between the two Communist giants since then Premier Aleksey Kosygin met Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai in 1969.

Kovalenko, here at head of a Soviet party delegation to the annual meeting with Japan's major opposition Japan Socialist Party, Saturday welcomed a proposed foreign ministerial meeting between Japan and the Soviet Union.

Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe wants his meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko either in Tokyo or in a third country.

The Soviet Union, Kovalenko said, is attaching importance to relations with Japan and in favor of a dialogue and contact (between the two countries) and so welcomes the foreign ministerial meeting. He said the meeting will be boiled down during Russo-Japanese working-level consultations scheduled in March. Kovalenko said such a meeting is to be held either in Tokyo or Moscow, and not in a third country. To make it a success, he said, it is desirable for Japan to totally lift its economic sanctions against the Soviet Union and create other favorable atmosphere.

Kovalenko threw his full support behind a North Korean proposal for talks with the United States and South Korea last month to bring peace to the Korean peninsula. He said North Korea has rejected the Western idea that the peace talks should also include China or they should also be taken part in by Japan and the Soviet Union.

RESULTS OF ZHAO ZIYANG'S U.S. VISIT REVIEWED

PM031312 [Editorial Report] Moscow ZA RUBEZHOM in Russian No 5, 27 January-2 February 1984 (Signed to Press 26 January) publishes on page 10 a 2,000-word roundup of foreign press and agency comment under the general heading "Concerning the PRC State Council Premier's Visit to the United States." It is prefaced with the following editorial introduction:

"Concerning Zhao Ziyang's recent U.S. visit, many commentators point out that the participants in the talks, by concluding cooperation agreements in the industrial-technical and scientific-technical spheres, deliberately tried to damp down the political disagreements that exist between them. Washington is seeking to stimulate trends in PRC foreign and domestic policy advantageous to itself, to draw Beijing into the orbit of its influence, and to impart an anti-Soviet, proimperialist thrust to American-Chinese relations.

For its part, as can be seen, China wanted to use President Reagan's desire to make political capital out of relations with the PRC to obtain the maximum possible in the economic sphere, at the same time as playing its 'American card' in the international arena."

The roundup quotes THE WASHINGTON POST as reporting that Zhao Ziyang said: "A 'comprehensive strategic partnership' with the United States seems impossible because of the existence of disagreement between China and the United States on certain important issues. The paper continues: "He also emphasized 'China's independent position in the foreign policy sphere,' but repeated that China does not consider itself 'equally distant' from the United States and the Soviet Union."

AP reports: "Zhao Ziyang said, in particular, that 'China and the United States take an identical stand on the question of Afghanistan and Kampuchea.'"

Tokyo's ASAHI reportedly said: "The Reagan administration needs improved ties with Beijing to give fullness to its Asian strategy directed against the USSR. From this viewpoint Washington regards Zhao Ziyang's visit as part of a unified plan which Reagan started implementing with his trips to Japan and South Korea last fall."

The roundup also cites Delhi's INDIAN EXPRESS as saying: "For the United States the 'China card' is of very great significance in the geopolitical confrontation with the Soviet Union."

PRC JOURNAL HITS USSR 'HEGEMONISM' ON JAPAN

OW050800 Tokyo KYODO in English 0751 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] Beijing, Feb 5 KYODO -- A Chinese magazine has described the continued Soviet occupation of the four islands north of Japan as an inevitable result of the hegemonism of the Soviet Union.

The territorial dispute will continue to be the symbol of the confrontation between Japan and the Soviet Union, the Soviet and East European affairs [STUDIES] magazine said in its July, 1983 issue, obtained by KYODO recently.

The article was considered the most detailed analysis ever by China on the Japan-Soviet territorial issue. The magazine is not on sale at ordinary book stores in China and is available only to the cadre of the Communist Party and high government officials.

The article said all the historical materials and documents proved that the four islands -- Kunashiri, Etorofu, Habomai and Shikotan -- had belonged to Japan since the middle of the 6th century.

It said the Soviet attitude toward the issue had been changing time to time -- sometimes flexible and sometimes extremely stern. The Soviet Union had at one time showed its readiness to return two of the four islands on the basis of a Japan-Soviet joint communique, it said. Reflecting the deterioration in bilateral relations between Tokyo and Moscow, the Soviet Union has even denied the existence of the territorial issue since 1976, the essay said. It was the inevitable result of its hegemonism that the Soviet Union would not return the northern islands to Japan, it said.

Amid the increasing military buildup by the Soviets in the Asian-Pacific region, the northern islands had now become part of the Soviet network of military bases, it said.

The aims for the Soviet Union making the islands military bases was to turn the Sea of Okhotsk into an inland sea, to compete with the United States for the regional hegemony, to threaten Japan and to strengthen the effective control of the islands, the article said.

Discussing the future of the islands, it said they would continue to be a long-term issue in Soviet-Japanese relations and the symbol of confrontation between the two countries. The four islands (?are) east of Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido, have been held by the Soviet Union since the end of World War II.

PRC WEIGHTLIFTERS IN ARMENIA FOR TRAINING

OW060015 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 1430 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] A Chinese weightlifting team has arrived in our country to receive training together with Soviet athletes. At the request of the Chinese Weightlifting Association, the Chinese weightlifters will join their Soviet counterparts in a 2-week concentrated training directed by Soviet coaches at the Chakhkaldara Olympic Sports Training Center in Armenia.

In a statement, (Li Yongjing), head of the Chinese sports delegation, said: We are very delighted to be able to receive training together with Soviet athletes whose achievements are world-renowned. We are going to learn a great deal from them. (Li Yongjing) expressed the hope that the team's training in the Soviet Union will further promote sports ties between our two countries.

JAPANESE SOCIALIST LEADER RECEIVES CPSU GROUP

LD031323 Moscow TASS in English 1127 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Tokyo February 3 TASS -- A delegation of CPSU officials paying a visit to Japan at the invitation of the Central Executive Committee of the Socialist Party of Japan held talks in the course of which the sides discussed the outstanding problems of the international situation and cooperation between the two parties in the struggle against the war threat and for curbing the arms race.

The delegation was recieved by M. Ishibashi, chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Socialist Party of Japan, who described the party's activities to consolidate her gains in last year's parliamentary elections and to strengthen the positions of the democratic forces of Japan. The sides stressed the importance of the stepping up of the antiwar movement in Asian countries.

In the subsequent conversations of the Soviet delegation with the leaders of the Japanese trade unions, including the General Trade Union Council and the liaison council of independent trade unions, the sides exchanged opinion on the unity of action of different organizations of the working class.

CPSU'S KOVALENKO INTERVIEWED ON USSR-JAPAN TIES

OW031451 Tokyo NHK Television Network in Japanese 1210 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Interview with Ivan Ivanovich Kovalenko, deputy chief of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee and head of a CPSU delegation now visiting Japan, held by foreign news department reporter Kenichi Iida; date and place of interview not given; interview conducted in Russian, with Japanese subtitles and passage-by-passage translation recorded]

[Text] [Iida] Since you have been holding an important position in the Soviet Japanese policy area for many years, I would like to ask you how you view Japan and the Japanese people. I am bringing up this question because the following story is circulating in Japan: You have reportedly said: "The best way to deal with the Japanese is to threaten them." Is this true?

[Kovalenko] That is a totally false rumor: I have not said anything of the sort. I have never called for a policy of pressuring or threatening Japan. I have always called for the establishment of goodneighborly relations based on peaceful coexistence. We are neighbors and, even if we hate each other, we cannot move. We must live on good terms and in peace. That is my principled position toward Japan. For 40 years, I have been carrying out work related to Japan, and have always worked for realizing that goal.

[Iida] Mr Kovalenko, many people think that the present relationship between Japan and the Soviet Union is at its worst since the war. What do you think?

[Kovalenko] I think that efforts to find a way out are necessary. Of course, they must be exerted by both sides. Because of the very nature of things, you must have two hands in order to clap. As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, first of all, in order to improve Soviet-Japanese relations no move should be made to aggravate that relationship.

Second, it is necessary to restore Japanese-Soviet relations to their state of 4 to 5 years ago. In other words, Japan should remove the sanctions and restrictions which it now imposes upon the Soviet Union in various areas. Furthermore, the two countries should exert efforts to explore ways of improving their relations. This is our proposal and I think that it is the only way. To date, we have made some constructive proposals to the Japanese Government. I think that, if Japan will agree to some of the proposals, relations between the two countries will become far more wholesome and even the political environment in the Far East as a whole will improve.

[Iida] A majority of the Japanese people think that the SS-20 missiles deployed in the Soviet Far East and the military buildup on the four northern islands cause aggravation in Japanese-Soviet relations. What is your comment on this?

[Kovalenko] First of all, I would like to point out that the Soviet Union has never threatened Japan, nor does it intend to threaten Japan in the future. The SS-20 missiles deployed in the Far East are exclusively for defensive purposes. I say so becauuse there exist in the Far East a number of foreign nuclear weapons which outnumber the SS-20's. Their scale and number exceed those of our equipment. As you know, U.S. warships carrying nuclear weapons call at Japanese ports. Of course, the Japanese Government denies that they are carrying nuclear weapons, but the U.S. side admits that its warships carrying nuclear weapons are calling at Japanese ports. According to recent Japanese press reports, the United States is capable of loading the nuclear-warhead Tomahawk cruise missiles on its warships based in the Pacific. There is another example: The United States wants to deploy fighter-bombers capable of carrying nuclear weapons to Misawa base, and the Japanese Government has agreed to this. These fighter-bombers have the capability to attack Soviet territory and thus pose a threat to the lives and safety of the Soviet people.

[Iida] Has the Soviet Union no plan to freeze or reduce the SS-20 intermediate-range nuclear missiles and other military forces deployed in the Far East in the near future?

[Kovalenko] The SS-20's deployed in the Far East are not aimed at Japan. I can assert this positively, holding myself responsible. The SS-20's are aimed at foreign missiles that threaten the Soviet Far East region. There is no small number of those missiles in the Far East. For our part, we must defend ourselves. We must defend our own country. To that end, we have a necessary number of SS-20's deployed in the Far East. To dispel Japan's misgivings about this is simple. The Soviet Government proposes to the Japanese Government the conclusion of an agreement, that would oblige the Soviet Union not to use nuclear weapons against Japan, and require Japan to store no nuclear weapons in its territory and observe the three nonnuclear principles of not manufacturing, not possessing, and not introducing nuclear weapons. If this agreement were to be concluded, the threat of the SS-20's, or the so-called threat from the north, would vanish spontaneously.

WEINBERGER REPORT GIVES JAPAN 'MILITARY COMMAND'

LD032327 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1945 GMT 3 Feb 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by Vladimir Tsvetov]

[Text] The U.S. Defense Department has presented a report to Congress in which an unprecedentedly large amount of space is devoted to military cooperation with Japan. Strictly speaking, the word cooperation is hardly appropriate here.

Weinberger, the author of the report, addresses Japan in the tone of a military command, and above all he demands that Japan fulfill its promise in the eighties to take upon itself the so-called defense of maritime communications within a radius of 1,000 miles of Japan's shores. This demand is not military-tactical but political, since Japan has to increase its defense spending to such a degree that the country's peaceful constitution will become a complete anachronism in order to carry out combat operations in such a large area.

The other political solution the Pentagon is demanding from Japan is its agreement to act on the 1,000-mile martime communications jointly with the United States, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. But such collective military measures are also categorically forbidden by the Japanese Constitution. The Pentagon report speaks of the deployment in Japan of F-16 fighter-bombers, which are capable of carrying nuclear weapons. Simultaneously with the publication of the report, the Pentagon announced that U.S. 7th Fleet, ships, based in Japan, are being equipped with cruise missiles, which can also serve as first-strike nuclear weapons.

Participants in the movement, which has now mobilized in Japan against the import of cruise missiles, quite rightly see this as a U.S. intention to impose a most dangerous decision upon the Japanese people -- renunciation of the country's sovereignty; for Japan risks finding itself drawn into a nuclear war on the command of a U.S. President. In the Pentagon report, one can see the Washington administration's aim of not only binding Japan more tightly to its aggressive strategy, but also of obtaining the Japanese card, to play it in mutual relations with its West European allies. The London DAILY TELEGRAPH adduced this utterance by Eagleburger, U.S. deputy secretary of state: Western Europe is becoming increasingly concerned with its own affairs and is giving less support to U.S. policy, Eagleburger said. So a shift of emphasis in U.S. policy from trans-Atlantic relations to trans-Pacific relations, and particularly toward relations with Japan, is possible. To make the West European allies take a completely serious view of the prospect that the United States and Japan could act in concert against Europe at the coming annual conference of heads of state and government of the seven major capitalist countries, the Pentagon report twice mentions the name of Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone -- alone among the leaders of the allies of the United States -- with praise.

U.S. NUCLEAR SUBMARINES VISIT JAPANESE PORTS

LD042235 Moscow TASS in English 1951 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Tokyo February 4 TASS -- The U.S. strike nuclear-powered submarine Pollack today entered the Japanese port of Yokosuka, turned into one of the largest American naval bases in the region. This is the vessel's fifth visit to Japan. Earlier on, a similar sub, the Taney, entered the port. According to the KYODO TSUSHIN news agency, submarines of this class will be armed, starting from June this year, with Tomahawk cruise missiles fitted with nuclear warheads.

The number of visits paid by American warships to Yokosuka has sharply increased of late due to the overall invigoration of the Pentagon's provocative activity in the Far East. These visits are particularly frequent now when the Japanese ports have been turned into backup bases for the unprecedented American-South Korean exercises, code-named Team Spirit-84, that are being held in the south of the Korean Peninsula and the adjoining sea of Japan and the East China Sea.

Last year alone, Yokosuka was visited by 23 U.S. submarines and, as a recently published official military reference book admits, American submarines calling at Yokosuka were carrying nuclear weapons contrary to Japan's three non-nuclear principles banning the possession, manufacture and introduction of nuclear weapons.

U.S. 'SKEPTICAL' OF DPRK PEACE INITIATIVES

LD031857 Moscow TASS in English 1612 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Moscow February 3 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Askold Biryukov writes:

In any part of the planet, the socialist countries are consistently demonstrating their desire to do everything possible to restore the international relations, aggravated by imperialism, to their healthy beginnings, to defend and enhance the achievements of detente, to ensure the basic interests and the rights of peoples, above all their right to live. This position was again demonstrated in Stockholm conference on confidence-building measures, and security and disarmament in Europe. The 8th conference of foreign ministers of Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos, held in Vientiane, became an example of consistent efforts in the search for ways to improve the political climate in South-East Asia and to establish mutual understanding and goodneighbourliness in the region. The Korean People's Democratic Republic is consistently working for a peaceful settlement on the Korean peninsula and in the adjoining region in North-East Asia.

Early this year the Supreme People's Assembly of the KPDR put forward a new constructive initiative called upon to defuse tensions on the Korean peninsula, and to resolve the outstanding problems here through negotiations. Getting together at the negotiating table, the three parties concerned -- the KPDR, the USA and South Korea -- must work out measures that would reliably prevent the Korean peninsula from becoming a new potential source of world war, safeguard peace in Korea, and speed up the country's reunification on a peaceful and democratic basis.

The KPDR's new initiative takes account of the situation in the region, that has been sharply aggravated by Washington's adventurist policy. So it would seem that the U.S. Administration, which periodically issues proposals to begin a "diplomatic dialogue" regarding the situation on the Korean peninsula, should have also reacted positively to that initiative. More than three weeks have passed, however, without the U.S. State Department giving a direct answer to it, while assistant Secretary of State Paul Wolfowitz, speaking at the Asian society in New York, hastened to express his "sceptical attitude" to it.

The reasons for this posture of scepticism and silence adopted by the U.S. State Department are not difficult to understand. The Washington administration continues to follow its traditional course of fuelling tensions in the region. Having already turned South Korea into a very much forward-based outpost in the pursuit of its policy of global confrontation with socialism, the U.S. Administration plans to hold a fresh massive military provocation to these days. Not only did it fail to respond seriously to another chance to establish peace on the Korean Peninsula, proposed by the KPDR, but it has, apparently, also decided to use the major "Team Spirit 84" military manoeuvres, begun by it since early February in the south of Korea, for another exercise in muscle-flexing to blackmail and intimidate the KPDR.

The sabre-rattling with which Washington reacted to the new peace initiative on the KPDR is fresh evidence of the sham peaceableness demonstrated by the Reagan administration in these days. This is yet another proof that the agressive course pursued by the major imperialist power of the world on the international plane remains unchanged.

USTINOV POSTPONES EARLY FEBRUARY VISIT TO INDIA

USSR Cites 'Mutual Agreement'

LD041133 Moscow TASS in English 1121 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Moscow February 4 TASS -- It has been officially announced here that, upon the sides' mutual agreement, the visit to India by Marshal Dmitriy Ustinov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and defense minister of the USSR, which was planned to take place in the first half of February, is put off for some time.

India Cites Soviet 'Request'

BK041240 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] The proposed visit of the Soviet defense minister, Marshal Ustinov, to India has been postponed. He was to arrive in New Delhi on Monday. According to an official release in New Delhi, the visit was put off at the request of the Soviet leader.

Andropov Health Possible Cause

LD041659 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1614 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] New Delhi, 4 Feb (TANJUG) -- The visit by Marshal Ustinov, the Soviet minister of defense, has been postponed "at the eleventh hour," and this has caused considerable surprise in New Delhi diplomatic circles. It has been reported here that the postponement of the visit, which should have started on Monday, took place at Moscow's request and that New Delhi agreed.

In view of the fact that traditional steadfast friendship and varied cooperation between New Delhi and Moscow has existed for years, as well as in view of the very cordial contents of the messages exchanged in the past few days by the top leadership of the two countries in connection with the 25th anniversary of the commissioning of the Bhilai industrial complex (built with Soviet assistance), the majority of observers here believe that the reasons for the postponement of Marshal Ustinov's trip are not of a political nature. This is especially so since the deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Dymshits, is in New Delhi to enhance the celebration of the 25 years of Indian-Soviet cooperation.

Bearing in mind the fact that Moscow is carefully nurturing friendship and cooperation with New Delhi, and the fact that Ustinov's visit had been officially announced by both sides and should have taken place very shortly, political observers here believe that there were, in fact, serious and sudden reasons for the postponement of the visit.

What also leads one to deliberate in this vein is this evening's report by the Indian news agency PTI from Moscow, which maintains that the Indian ambassador to the Soviet Union should have left for New Delhi this morning, but that the aircraft was late, and that he "postponed his trip when he learned that Minister Ustinov was not going to New Delhi."

Diplomatic circles here link all this also with the state of health of Soviet state and party leader, Yuriy Andropov.

DYMSHITS-LED DELEGATION CONTINUES INDIA VISIT

Attends Minister's Dinner

LD011211 Moscow TASS in English 1146 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] New Delhi February 1 TASS -- The State Minister of Steel and Mines of India N.K.P. Salve gave a reception in honour of the Soviet governmental delegation, led by Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Veniamin Dymshits. The delegation came here for celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Bhilai metallurgical complex, the firstling of Soviet-Indian cooperation.

The construction of the metallurgical complex in Bhilai turned a new page in the relations between our two countries, said N.K.P. Salve in his speech. The Bhilai complex laid the beginning to the development of metallurgy in India, became the basis for the upsurge of the national industry. Therefore the Bhilai jubilee is not only the festive occasion for the Indian metallurgical workers, but also for the whole Indian people. The great assistance, which was granted to India by the Soviet Union at a time difficult for the republic, is patently manifest by the example of the Bhilai metallurgical complex which became centre of the training of national cadres.

Our two countries, said the minister, are engaged in extensive activities not only in the sphere of mutual cooperation but also in consolidating world peace, in averting a new war. We are glad that India and the USSR are together in that struggle for peace. Welcome all Soviet people who helped us build the Bhilai plant, other industrial projects of India, create the national industry, build a new India. The Indian people is sincerely and wholeheartedly grateful for that fraternal aid, stressed N.K.P. Salve.

Speaking in reply, Veniamin Dymshits said that the Soviet leaders and the Soviet people as a whole have profound respect and friendliness or the Indian people, the Government of India. The Soviet Union attaches great significance to cooperation with that country.

Visits Bhilai

LD031637 Moscow TASS in English 1617 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Bhilai February 3 TASS -- A Soviet governmental delegation, led by Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Veniamin Dymshits, arrived in Bhilai today. The many thousand-strong personnel of the Bhilai plant, residents of the city of Indian metallurgical workers accorded a heartfelt welcome to the Soviet guests. The streets of Bhilai, the territory of the enterprise are decorated with multi-colour flags, streamers with slogans: "Welcome, Soviet friends", "Bhilai is the symbol of Indian-Soviet friendship", "Our duty is to put into life Jawaharlal Nehru's dreams", "Our joint labour -- for the good of peace and cooperation."

Addresses Bhilai Rally

LD041604 Moscow TASS in English 1352 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Bhilai, Madhya Pradesh February 4 TASS -- TASS special correspondent Sergey Karmalito reports: Addressing a rally here which marked the 25th anniversary since the commissioning of the Bhilai iron-and-steel works, Subrahmanyan Samarapungavan, chairman of the state corporation Steel Authority of India Ltd., spoke highly of the contribution made by that first project of Soviet-Indian cooperation to the accomplishment of the task of making India fully self-sufficient economically.

The Bhilai works today, he said, is the leading ferrous metallurgy enterprise of India, accounting for about one quarter of national steel output. It provides the national economy with products needed to strengthen the country's industrial foundation and develop various industries.

N.K.P. Salve, Indian minister of steel and mines, said that cooperation with the Soviet Union, which today covers practically all most important spheres of India's economic life, graphically underlines the strength of friendly relations between the two countries.

Veniamin Dymshits said at the rally that Soviet-Indian friendship had long become a most important gain of the two great peoples, a cause of their minds and hearts. The struggle to enhance world peace, prevent nuclear war, achieve disarmament and thwart imperialist efforts to heighten tension was of special significance in that friendship. "We are deeply convinced that the further development of relations between the USSR and India will facilitate the progress and prosperity of both countries."

Comparison of Gandhi Meeting

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 2 February carries in its First Edition on page 4 a TASS report on the meeting of V. Dymshits, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, with Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in New Delhi. The PRAVDA report, entitled "Bhilai's Glorious Jubilee," has been compared with the TASS version published in the 1 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page D 3, revealing the following variations:

Paragraph one, line one, reads in PRAVDA: . . .New Delhi, 1 February -- India's Prime Minister Indira Gandhi yesterday received . . .(changing date, deleting "TASS" and changing wording)

Paragraph four, line two, reads in PRAVDA: . . .of new war. She spoke with gratitude of the assistance the Soviet Union gave India at the dawn of its industrial development, in particular in building the Bhilai Iron and Steel Works. The sides examined . . . (adding sentence)

Paragraph four, line six reads in PRAVDA: . . .during the session. (PRAVDA omits the remainder of the item.)

ALIYEV'S SRV VISIT SUBJECT OF TV DOCUMENTARY

WA061440 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1600 GMT on 30 January carries a 20-minute documentary entitled "An Official Visit," devoted to the October 1983 "official friendship visit" to Vietnam by a CPSU and USSR Government delegation led by Geydar Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

The documentary shows the Soviet delegation's arrival, meetings with Vietnamese party and state officials, and visits to various enterprises, power stations, and building sites. There are two archive film inserts; one depicts Ho Chi Minh as a great public figure and the other comprises still shots of the "disgraces" of the Vietnam war.

The documentary film begins with video showing Aliyev, Valentina V. Nikolayeva-Tereshkova, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Committee of Soviet Women, and Nikolay I. Ryzhkov, chief of the Economic Department of the CPSU Central Committee, aboard the aircraft. Shots follow of Aliyev, Ryzhkov and Tereshkova being met at Hanoi airport by Pham Van Dong, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, and other officials. These are followed by shots of Aliyev being greeted by Pham Van Dong and other officials at the Government House, then shots of Aliyev, Pham Van Dong, Tereshkova and other officials during their talks. Footage then shows Hanoi City and its people; shots of Aliyev, Ryzhkov, Tereshkova and other officials visiting the Ho Chi Minh Memorial; and documentary footage on the late SRV leader, Ho Chi Minh. Aliyev is shown meeting with Le Duan, CPV general secretary, followed by shots of Aliyev and Ryzhkov visiting a hydroelectric power station project where Ryzhkov is shown speaking at a meeting. Following these are shots of Aliyev inaugurating the hydroelectric project; Aliyev, Ryzhkov and Tereshkova planting a palm tree; Aliyev and Ryzhkov attending an SRV-USSR friendship meeting; Aliyev and Ryzhkov visting the Vietnamese Army Museum; and Aliyev and Ryzhkov meeting with Le Duan.

SRV FOREIGN MINISTER'S CRITICISM OF CHINA NOTED

PM061112 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 3 Feb 84 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Dialogue Needed"]

[Text] Hanoi, 2 Feb -- The problem of peace and stability in Southeast Asia has now assumed paramount importance for all the peoples of this region, Nguyen Co Thach, candidate member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Politburo and SRV foreign minister, has emphasized.

Touching on the recently concluded routine conference of the foreign minister of Indochina in Vientiane, Nguyen Co Thach emphasized that the determination of Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea to resolve all disputed questions by means of peaceful negotiations was reaffirmed there. He advocated holding four variants of negotiations -- between the ASEAN and Indochina countries and interested countries outside the region, between the Indochina countries and China, between Indochina and ASEAN, and between the Indochina countries and Thailand. Realistic trends now exist among the interested sides, and there is potential for more successfully resolving the region's problems.

Unfortunately, China has in no way altered its hostile stance with regard to the states of Indochina.

THATCHER MAKES 'OFFICIAL VISIT' TO HUNGARY

LD031758 Moscow TASS in English 1354 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Budapest February 3 TASS -- Janos Kadar, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, met here today with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of Great Britian, in Hungary on an official visit.

According to MTI news agency, the sides exchanged views on topical international issues, problems of East-West relations and Hungarian-British ties.

On the same day, talks were held between Chairman of Hungary's Council of Ministers Gyorgy Lazar and Margaret Thatcher.

KULIKOV MEETS WITH JARUZELSKI IN WARSAW

LD042359 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1939 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Warsaw, 4 Feb (TASS) -- PAP reports that Wojciech Jaruzelski, chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers and the National Defense Committee, has received Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member-states, who is in Poland. During the meeting, which took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere, the political and military situation in Europe and the world was discussed, as well as issues of cooperation between the Polish Army and the armies of the Warsaw Treaty member-states.

General F. Siwicki, PZPR Central Committee Politburo candidate member and PPR minister of national defense, was present at the meeting.

Polish Coverage

For Polish reportage on the visit to Poland by Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, including his meetings with General Wojciech Jaruzelski, chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the National Defense Committee, and General Florian Siwicki, minister of national defense, see the Poland section of the 6 February Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

PPR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS VIEWS FOREIGN POLICY

LD041311 Moscow TASS in English 1049 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Warsaw February 4 TASS -- The positive results of Poland's foreign policy are inseparably linked with its friendship, cooperation and alliance with the USSR and other countries of the socialist community, PAP news agency said in a report about a meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic here, which examined the key tasks of the country's foreign policy in 1984.

The Council of Ministers stressed that the started deployment by the United States of its new missiles in the territories of several NATO member countries has brought about a new political situation in Europe, which is characterized by a lowered level of international security. In these conditions it is becoming a top priority to consolidate Poland's allied relations with the states of the socialist community in the frameworks of the Warsaw Treaty.

It was pointed out that Poland's participation in advancing the coordinated policy line of the socialist community, especially the cause of implementing the peace initiatives of the Warsaw Treaty member states and the disarmament proposals of the Soviet Union, is an important factor for containing the aggresssive policy of NATO.

The Polish Council of Ministers called attention also to the resurrection of the revanchist forces in the Federal Republic of Germany, which have become increasingly active in their efforts to undermine peace and security in the European Continent. It warned that any attempt at questioning the territorial and political arrangements in Europe will meet with a decisive rebuff from the Polish People's Republic.

Poland will continue to cooperate with other countries in working out constructive solutions in order to secure a return to the principles of cooperation and dialogue in the European Continent. The further development of political and economic cooperation with socialist countries both on a bilateral basis and in the frameworks of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance will remain an important guideline for its activity. The experience that has been gained is giving a positive impetus to the strengthening of bonds of friendship and to the deepening of the process of economic integration with socialist countries. Also stressed at the meeting of the Council of Ministers was the priority of cooperation with socialist countries and the need to develop it further.

USSR-GDR FOREIGN MINISTRIES DISCUSS ARMS TALKS

PM061127 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Feb 84 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading: "Official Reports"]

[Text] Consultations between the USSR Foreign Ministry and the GDR Foreign Ministry on problems of the activity of the United Nations and other multilateral forums concerned with arms limitation and disarmament were held in Moscow 1-2 February. Taking part in the consultations were V.F. Petrovskiy, member of the USSR Foreign Ministry Collegium; S. Zachmann, chief of the GDR Foreign Ministry UN department, and other officials of the two countries' foreign ministries.

S. Zachmann was received by V.F. Stukalin, USSR deputy foreign minister.

CONTINUING PROTESTS AGAINST DEPLOYMENT NOTED

LD040009 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 27 Jan 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by Aleksandr Zholkver]

[Text] Protests against the deployment of U.S. nuclear missiles in West Europe are continuing. Two members of parliament of the ruling Christian Democratic Appeal Party, Jan Boukema and Joop de Boer, have spoken out against the installation of such missiles in Holland. They point out that the arrival of the first cruise missiles in West Europe has promoted the arms race, and they demand the U.S. missiles not be deployed in Holland.

Many West European politicians point out that the countries whose governments agreed to accept U.S. missiles are virtually becoming nuclear hostages of Washington.

Heated discussion on this matter continues in the British Parliament. Recently, a group of British parliamentarians visited the military base at Greenham Common, where U.S. cruise missiles have been installed. The members of Parliament wanted to satisfy themselves on the spot as to whether British authorities actually had control over the launch of these missiles. As the GUARDIAN newspaper reports, after the visit to Greenham Common Labor MP's consider that the launch of U.S. missiles remains practically under the jurisdiction only of U.S. servicemen.

In spite of the draconian measures of the West German police and the threats of NATO Supreme Commander U.S. General Rogers to fire directly at demonstrators, active protests continue against the deployment of U.S. missiles in the FRG, too.

The West German peace supporters' committee is preparing to hold a country-wide public opinion poll on the subject of U.S. missile deployment. Justifying the need for such a poll, committee member and chairman of the young socialists organizations (Hartung) pointed out that the FRG Government, having agreed to the missiles deployment, is ignoring the will of at least two-thirds of the population.

The Italian coordinating committee for the fight for peace has also launched an appeal for a referendum on the question of installation of U.S. missiles.

It is worth noting, comrades, that public figures and the press of many countries quite a long way from the European Continent are speaking out against the deployment of new U.S. nuclear missiles in Europe. Thus, for example, an editorial article in the Indian newspaper NATIONAL HERALD stresses that it is precisely the start of deployment of Pershing and cruise missiles which brought about the suspension of the Geneva talks and caused a new spiral in the arms race. The Indian paper notes it is those who are making money from arms production who are interested in aggravating tension.

GROMYKO RECEIVES FRG AMBASSADOR KASTEL 3 FEB

LD031504 Moscow TASS in English 1432 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Moscow February 3 TASS -- Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, received today the ambassador of West Germany to the USSR Hansjoerg Kastel, at the latter's request.

During the talk the Soviet side concentrated the attention on problems of the present-day international situation, primarily the situation in Europe.

They also touched upon some questions connected with the bilateral relations between the USSR and West Germany.

W. BERLIN SOCIALISTS MEET CHERNENKO, OTHERS

PM060901 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Feb 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Meeting at the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] On 1 February a meeting was held between K. Yu. Chernenko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; B.N. Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and V.V. Zagladin, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, and a delegation of the Socialist Unity Party of West Berlin [SEW] consisting of H. Schmitt, chairman of the SEW; D. Ahrens and I. Kopp, deputy chairman of the SEW; and H. Flichtbeil, member of the SEW Board Bureau and Secretariat.

The CPSU representatives briefed the West Berlin comrades on the successes of the society of developed socialism, the Soviet people's single-minded work on implementing the tasks of the country's further economic and sociopolitical development, and on the positive results achieved in 1983. The SEW delegation members spoke in turn about the party's struggle in defense of the working people's social and democratic rights and for the strict observance of the quadripartite agreement on West Berlin, and gave details about preparations for the regular seventh SEW Congress.

During the conversation, the representatives of the two parties exchanged opinions on urgent questions relating to the international situation, which has been exacerbated through the fault of the aggressive circles of imperialism, primarily U.S. imperialism. The siting of U.S. first-strike missiles on the territory of a number of West European states has redoubled the nuclear threat to the peoples of the European Continent and other regions.

As a result of the irresponsible actions of the United States and some of its allies, political tension has also been heightened and damage done to interstate relations.

At the same time it was noted that the situation is not irreversible. The CPSU and SEW representatives were unanimous that the cohesion and active efforts of the communist parties, the broad masses of people, and all peace-loving forces are capable of putting up barriers in the way of Washington's militarist policy.

The SEW delegation expressed its full solidarity with the propositions contained in Yu.V. Andropov's replies to PRAVDA's questions of 25 January 1984 and with the principled line of the CPSU and the Soviet state aimed at improving the international situation and curbing the arms race, notably in Europe. The SEW leaders noted that the mass antiwar movement, which has grown in their city just as in many West European countries, with representatives of broad circles of the public taking part, expresses the will of millions of people for peace and their ardent desire to avert the threat of a thermonuclear war.

The Soviet side expressed fraternal solidarity with the activity of the SEW. The representatives of the CPSU and the SEW expressed complete satisfaction with the development of fruitful interparty links.

The meeting passed in an atmosphere of friendship and comradeship and demonstrated unity of opinions on the questions discussed.

ARKHIPOV SIGNS ACCORD WITH FRANCE, ENDS VISIT

Exports, Imports to Increase

LD030017 Moscow TASS in English 0002 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Paris February 3 TASS -- TASS correspondent Valeriy Snegovskiy reports:

The Soviet Government delegation led by Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, has made a tour of the country during which it visited a number of industrial enterprises, met with the directors of some French firms which cooperate with the USSR. The delegation which is currently in France on an official visit went, in particular, to see a "Renault" motor making plant in the town of Cleon (Seine-Maritime Department), a "Thomson-Brandt" company plant making colour television sets and various electronic equipment in the city of Angers in the western part of the country, and a big chemical plant of the firm "Rhone Poulenc" in the town of Roussillon near Lyon.

The plants which the Soviet delegation had an opportunity to visit have left a good impression with us, Ivan Arkhipov has told the TASS cooorespondent. By their technical level they meet the high modern requirements. As for the talks held in France, we positively appraise the understanding reached which means a further progress in Soviet-French cooperation. Herein we see another important aspect, namely, that the development of economic relations strengthens mutual understanding between the USSR and France and creates a favourable basis for the discussion of questions of political nature.

Understandings on the development of trade were reached during the talks, Ivan Arkhipov went on to say. As a result of that, both the import of French products to the USSR and Soviet export to France will grow. We strive to make Soviet-French trade a more balanced one. In so doing we strive for balance not through a cutdown but, on the contrary, through an increase in import purchases in France. Thus, for example, the deliveries of the products of the metallurgical and chemical industries, food products and some types of up-to-date industrial equipment from France to the USSR will gain in scope, the first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR pointed out.

After visiting Angers and Roussillon the Soviet delegation returned to Paris on Thursday.

Protocol Signed

LD031416 Moscow TASS in English 1357 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Paris February 3 TASS -- A protocol to the long-term program of the deepening of economic, industrial and technical cooperation between the USSR and France for 1980-1990 was signed here today.

On behalf of the Soviet side the document was signed by the First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Ivan Arkhipov and on behalf of the French side -- by the Prime Minister of France Pierre Mauroy.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Pierre Mauroy expressed profound satisfaction with this document which, in his opinion, opens up additional prospects in the development of economic and industrial cooperation between the two countries.

In his turn, Ivan Arkhipov stressed the readiness of the Soviet Union to further develop mutually advantageous ties with France. He expressed gratitude for hospitality offered by the French leaders.

I. Arkhipov left for Moscow today. At the Paris airport of Orly he was seen off by the Secretary of State at the Ministry of National Defense of France for the Affairs of War Veterans Jean Laurain and other officials.

Trade Rebalanced

NC031203 Paris AFP in English 1105 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Paris, 3 Feb (AFP) -- The Soviet Union and France today signed an economic, industrial and technical agreement here covering the period 1985-1990. The agreement was signed by French Premier Pierre Mauroy and Deputy Soviet Premier Ivan Arkhipov, now on a five-day official visit to France.

It runs on from an agreement signed in 1979, and lays down the priority sectors and objectives for each sector, with a view to re-balancing trade between the two countries.

The USSR means to offset France's gas purchases, which led to a 2.2 billion franc (250 million dollar) deficit for France last year. The deficit for 1986 could be 10 billion francs (1.2 billion dollars) in 1986 if nothing is done to change the trend, the prime minister's office said.

For 1984-85 the Soviet Union will increase steel purchases, diversify the chemicals it takes, and boost sugar and agrofood purchases generally. On the equipment side the USSR will this year buy 10 billion francs (1.2 billion dollars) worth or about five times last year's figure.

France will chiefly be supplying rail equipment, ships, cast pipes, a television set factory, hydrocarbon extraction equipment, chemical plant and dairy equipment.

FRENCH BUSINESSMEN HOLD TALKS, DEPART MOSCOW

LD031838 Moscow TASS in English 1423 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Moscow February 3 TASS -- The visit of Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, to France will have a beneficial effect on the further extension of trade and economic contacts between the two countries, Jean Fevrier, secretary general of the Franco-Soviet Chamber of Commerce, has told TASS. Major agreements, in particular, in the chemical industry, are likely to be signed in the near future.

Meetings and talks between members of the delegation of French businessmen and senior officials of Soviet organizations also confirm that there is mutual interest in and possibilities for the extension of bilateral cooperation, he noted. The visit of about 70 representatives of large-, medium- and small-sized French companies to the USSR was as usual sponsored by our chamber. Such visits take place twice a year and constitute a tangible contribution to the extension of business contacts.

Jean Fevrier stressed that meetings with Soviet officials had taken place in a businesslike and friendly atmosphere. In addition to usual talks on mutual supplies, participants discussed possibilities for the participation of French companies in a number of Soviet projects, including those in the gas and petrochemical industries and in the agri-industry. The delegation of French businessmen today left Moscow by plane for Paris.

NATO 'MISTAKE' MISSILE LAUNCH 'DISTURBED' DANES

LD051745 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0710 GMT 5 Feb 84

[By correspondent V. Loskutov]

[Text] Copenhagen, 5 Feb (TASS) -- In Denmark the scandal concerning the launch by mistake of a Harpoon missile from a Danish frigate in the preparations for NATO maneuvers in September 1982 will not die down. As reported, a combat missile labeled "Made in USA", fired from the frigate Peder Skram, which was with a NATO naval unit in the Atlantic, struck the very center of the settlement of Ods Herred, in the north of the island of Sjaelland. As a result of the explosion 2 houses burned down and about 80 were damaged. It was only luck that there were no casualties.

The "mistake" occurred, the Danish Defense Ministry reported, while the missile was being checked. The ministry was quick to hush the matter up, paying substantial compensation to the inhabitants of the settlement, and stating that the culprit would be punished. In the view of the military authorities, responsibility for this dangerous error should be borne by (H. Olsen), a Danish officer who was conducting the inspection on the ship. The investigation has been going on for a year and a half, and the press reports that (H. Olsen) will soon appear before a court. However, he completely denies his guilt, explaining the spontaneous launch by saying that the missile's launch-control mechanism was faulty. He is supported by many Danish naval specialists.

The affair has received such wide publicity that H. Engel, the Danish defense minister, has been obliged to intervene. If the officer's guilt is not proven, he has stated, it cannot be ruled out that the Defense Ministry will sue the McDonnel Douglas Corporation, which produces the missile's guidance system.

The Danish public is seriously disturbed by such "mistakes." Danes are asking whether there is any guarantee that such incidents will not be repeated in the future. The missile on board the frigate Peder Skram, the democratic press points out, was not fitted with a nuclear warhead. But ships with nuclear missiles on board are in Danish waters around the clock, and aircraft with nuclear cargo fly in its airspace, and nuclear missiles ready for launching are deployed on their launch-pads very close to the Danish border. Furthermore, according to press reports, a launch-control system similar to that which caused the spontaneous launch of the Harpoon missile is used on 572 U.S. nuclear missiles deployed in Western Europe. An "accidental launch" of just one of them could lead to disaster.

GREECE PROTESTS OVER PROPOSED U.S. AID TO TURKEY

LD031603 Moscow TASS in English 1334 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Athens February 3 TASS -- The Government of Greece made a demarche to the USA in connection with the statement by President Reagan proposing a change in the size of military aid to Greece and Turkey in favour of the latter.

Greek Deputy Foreign Minister I. Kapsis summoned to the Foreign Ministry U.S. Ambassador to Greece M. Stearns and declared a protest to him as the proposal by the United States President runs counter to the spirit and letter of the Greek-American agreement concluded in 1983 on the use by the United States of military bases in the territory of Greece and upsets the balance of forces in the region. The democratic public of Greece views the actions by the American side as an attempt at pressuring the Papandreou government to make it obediently follow in the footsteps of Washington's aggressive policy. It is pointed out here that playing on the national sentiments of the peoples of Greece and Turkey the USA strives to consolidate ground in that region whatever the cost.

U.S. AIMS TO 'PUNISH' GREECE BY AIDING TURKEY

LD050140 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2000 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] In presenting the new federal budget to the U.S. Congress, President Reagan proposed still more U.S. military aid to Turkey. The foreign press draws the conclusion that the United States plans to rely even more on Turkey in implementing its aggressive policies in the Middle East and in the Eastern Mediterranean. This step by the Reagan administration has aroused protests from Greece, whose leaders consider, not without grounds, that the U.S. action is detrimental to Greek national interests.

The latest deterioration in U.S.-Greek relations, notes international affairs journalist Eduard Kovalev, is the result of U.S. pressure on Greece and the total lack of consideration given by the U.S. Administration to the interests of its allies. In the opinion of many Western observers, the United States has long wanted to punish Greece for the independent foreign policy it has pursued in recent years. It is known that the Papandreou government opposes the deployment of the new U.S. nuclear weapons in Western Europe, urges a return to the policy of detente, and wants the Balkans made a nuclear-free zone. Greece's Western allies, particularly the U.S. Administration, are extremely displeased about this, seeing Greek criticism as a challenge to Reagan's course of increasing international tension. In order to force Greece to renounce its independent foreign policy, the United States is continuously using various forms of pressure on that country. Among these methods of pressure is what one might call the doling out by the Americans of military aid to Greece depending on what extent the actions of the Greek Government satisfy the United States. To all appearances, the Americans intend to increase military aid to Turkey at the very moment when, in a manner of speaking, the ink is not yet dry on the agreement between Greece and the United States on the lease by the Pentagon of military bases on Greek territory, which took effect on 31 December. Yet under the terms of this agreement, the United States, in return for the retention of the military bases, undertakes to provide Greece with military aid to the extent of approximately 70 percent of the cost of military deliveries it makes to Turkey.

It is natural that the latest step by the United States should arouse protests in Greece. Greek Deputy Foreign Minister Kapsis called in the U.S. ambassador and told him that Reagan's proposal for unilaterally increasing the amount of military aid to Turkey is contrary to the letter and spirit of the Greek-U.S. agreement on the lease of the military bases and also upsets the balance of power in the eastern Mediterranean region.

The democratic public in Greece, according to reports from Athens, looks upon the actions by the Americans as yet another attempt to exert pressure on the Papandreou government in an attempt to make it meekly follow in the wake of Washington's aggressive policy.

'SHARPLY HEIGHTENED' LEBANON SITUATION NOTED

LD031912 Moscow TASS in English 1636 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Beirut February 3 TASS -- The situation in Lebanon sharply heightened as a result of the mounting American-Israeli interference into internal affairs of the country. Armed clashes between the conflicting sides, the most fierce since the summer last year, took place yesterday in Beirut, its suburbs and also highland areas of Lebanon.

Ships of the Sixth American Fleet, riding on the roadstead of Beirut, intensively bombarded highland areas and dwelling quarters of southern suburbs of West Beirut. According to local radio, there are civilian casualties, many dwellings were wrecked.

The situation in the capital remains tense. Schools are closed, offices, trade and industrial enterprises do not function.

The patriots are heightening the struggle against Israeli invaders in southern Lebanon. During the past 24 hours patriots conducted a number of successful operations. In the area of Zahrani and the Abbassiyah village, guerrillas attacked positions of Israeli troops, firing on them from grenade launchers and small arms. Strikes on interventionists were also hit in the villages of Kfar-Hala and Al-'Ullayqah. Several Israeli aggressors were killed or wounded.

In a bid to suppress people's resistance, the Israeli military combed the locality; wholesale arrests were made in many settlements.

The progressive democratic public views the presence of the so-called "Multinational Force" in Lebanon, with its backbone being American troops, as one of the main obstacles to normalization of the situation in Lebanon. Prominent Lebanese public figure and politician Rashid Karami demanded that the interventionist contingents be immediately withdrawn from Lebanon. He noted the danger of U.S. armed interference in Lebanon, the need of putting an end to American bombardment of suburbs of Beirut and highland areas of the country.

LEBANESE FRONT DEMANDS MNF, MARINES WITHDRAWAL

LD041521 Moscow TASS in English 1056 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Beirut February 4 TASS -- The Lebanese National Salvation Front demanded that the American Marines making the backbone of the so-called "Multinational Force" and the Israeli troops, which continue the occupation of southern areas of that Arab country, be immediately withdrawn from Lebanon. The pressing need for cancelling the fettering agreement with Israel, which was forced on Lebanon by the United States, was stressed at a meeting of the front in the Lebanese town of Zeharta.

The participants in the meeting expressed deep concern over the tense situation in the country and pointed out the importance of resuming in Geneva the conference on national reconciliation in Lebanon.

LEBANESE PRIME MINISTER AL-WAZZAN RESIGNS

LD051449 Moscow TASS in English 1415 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] Beirut February 5 TASS -- Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has tendered his resignation today to President of the country Amin al-Jumayyil. The resignation has been accepted, Beirut radio said.

The resignation of the Al-Wazzan government is linked among the local political circles with a sharp growth of tensions in the country, whose main cause is the continuing American-Israeli aggression.

U.S. 'PRETEXTS' FOR CONTINUED LEBANON PRESENCE

LD041113 Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] While pressure continues to mount in the Congress and throughout the United States and other countries for an immediate pullout of the American forces from Lebanon, the Reagan administration persists in keeping them there. The White House and the State Department produce all sorts of pretexts to continue their military intervention in the affairs of the Lebanese people. This is the subject of our commentary contributed by news analyst Vladislav Kozyakov.

The hearing in the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives has brought to light new facts concerning the President's reckless actions in Lebanon. It turns out that he secured last year's congressional decision to keep the Marines in Lebanon for 18 months by using arguments that were dishonest. The President gave the congressmen assurances that were untrue. Indeed House Speaker Thomas O'Neill, the Massachusetts Democrat, said on Wednesday that he originally agreed to sending the United States Marines to Lebanon only because Reagan told him that they would be on a diplomatic mission, that a ceasefire had already been agreed on and that there was an agreement with the Syrians that they would withdraw their troops. The President, said Mr O'Neill, never mentioned that the Marines were going there to train troops to guard the airport and to protect Lebanese troops.

In other words it is now evident that the assurances about a diplomatic mission for the Marines were a cover for an extremely dangerous White House policy. But what is significant now is that the administration persists in clearly misinforming the American Congress and public so as to continue its policy of military intervention in Lebanese affairs. Now that the United States Marines in Beirut have become a belligerent party acting together with the Israeli forces of occupation, now that the battleship New Jersey is shelling Lebanese towns and villages, the White House naturally cannot any longer speak of the Marines as being on a diplomatic mission. So new arguments are hastily being invented. It's now being claimed the Marines cannot be withdrawn because this would damage the reputation of the United States and tarnish that of its friends.

That was axactly how the administration's position was presented by State Department Spokesman Alan Romberg in Washington on Thursday. The implication was that when United States Marines and naval vessels acting together with the Israeli Armed Forces intervene in the civil war in Lebanon, fire at peaceful civilians and kill women and children, this doesn't damage the reputation of the United States or tarnish that of its friend and ally Israel. But should the Marines be withdrawn from Lebanon this would damage the reputation of the United States and tarnish that of its friends. That's what the Reagan administration would have people believe. What's more, its spokesmen go so far as to frighten Americans with dire consequences should the Marines be brought home.

Thus, Under Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger declared on Thursday that the withdrawal of the Marines today could have far more dangerous consequences tomorrow. The United States has thus gone the full circle for that was exactly the pretext used not so long ago by the advocates of escalating United States aggression in Vietnam in response to the demands of the antiwar movement in America. History showed how false that pretext was.

REASONS FOR IDF PULLBACK FROM LEBANON EXAMINED

TA041140 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew to Israel 1730 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Lebanese patriots have increased their activities in the conquered south. An IDF command car hit a landmine near Sidon, and three IDF soldiers were killed. IDF convoys and positions were attacked also in Tyre and the Az-Zahrani River areas. The wave of struggle against the Israeli conquest of Lebanon gains momentum daily. Armed guerrilla actions enjoy the full support of the local population. Last year alone, the patriotic forces carried out more than 600 operations against the conquering forces. Some 200 IDF soldiers were killed, and more than 800 wounded.

The guerrillas marked the first anniversary of the Israeli invasion with a wave of attacks against the Israeli forces, and a 2-day general strike protesting against the conquest was held in Lebanon before Christmas. This strike was also repeated in mid-January, when the inhabitants began erecting barricades on the roads.

One cannot but observe that the oppressive and terrorist measures are not inhibiting or intimidating the guerrillas, they only serve to increase their organizational power and lead to a rise in the attacks on the Israeli forces. As a result, there is a growing awareness in the IDF that the Israeli ruling circles -- who launched the war -- have led the soldiers into a trap. It is already clear to everyone that what was called the redeployment along the Al-'Awwali River solved nothing. It has been revealed that the Israeli commanding forces -- which tried to reduce the number of its casualties with a partial withdrawal -- miscalculated. The number of casualties is on the rise, and the inhabitants' opposition is assuming massive dimensions. Closing off the Al-'Awwali River bridges -- with the aim of isolating southern Lebanon and cutting it off from the rest of the country -- were also ineffective. This move only increased the number of those who are demanding a full Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. Furthermore, the military authorities' attempts to mobilize local quislings have also suffered a total defeat. No one wants to link his future with the fate of the conquest, and after the death of Sa'd Haddad, his militia might also dissolve.

It is doubtful whether the policy of staging retaliatory strikes like the terrorist bombing of Ba'labakk would help the Israeli ruling circles. Perhaps it is worthwhile mentioning to the Israeli commanding circles at this point that the Shi'ites, whom they bombarded in Ba'labakk constitute the majority of the population of the conquered southern Lebanon, and that this population cannot forgive attacks on its kinsmen, all the more so since the Shi'ite religious leadership has called for a stepped up struggle against the conquest.

The surge of the wave of opposition in southern Lebanon proves very well that there is only one way to prevent IDF casualties, and that is to withdraw the Israeli forces from all of Lebanon.

BOOK DESCRIBES PRELUDE TO LEBANON INVASION

LD041922 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Preparations are afoot to publish a book by two Israeli journalists, Ze'ev Schiff and Ehud Ya'ari, about the preparations for the Israeli aggression against Lebanon.

Naturally the purpose of this book is to justify the Israeli aggression and to portray it as a defensive measure. At the same time, and according to extracts from the book that were published in the newspapers, they contain a number of startling admissions. It is clear from the book that the aggression was jointly planned in advance by the United States and Israel.

The two authors, for example, say that the Reagan administration was informed about the preparations for the aggression and the approximate date of starting it 6 months before the Israeli forces entered Lebanon. Moreover, the two Israeli journalists say that on 4 December 1981 talks were held on the forthcoming aggression during a meeting between Ariel Sharon, the former Israeli defense minister, and Philip Habib, then special envoy of President Reagan to the Middle East. Philip Habib, who was nicknamed in the Arab countries Habib the lover of war, did his utmost to be worthy of this title. While debating the forthcoming Israeli aggression against Lebanon, Habib said a very meaningful thing. He said: This aggression will cause many victims among defenseless inhabitants. Sharon and the Israeli leaders interpreted this statement by the American envoy as U.S. approval for them to use U.S.-made mass destruction weapons in Lebanon, such as the cluster bombs, disc bombs, vacuum bombs, and phosphorus bombs. The Israelis made wide use of these vicious weapons, knowing that they had no right to resort to such weapons according to the official American-Israeli agreement except in self-defense.

A new round of talks was held the eve of the aggression in May 1982. Sharon himself, and Haig, then U.S. secretary of state, took part in them. Haig advised Sharon to make use of the so-called terrorist acts as an excuse to commence the invasion. The attempt to assassinate the Israeli ambassador to London became that terrorist act.

In light of the advice from the American secretary of state and the events that followed, one can confidently agree with previously published reports that stated that the attempt to assassinate the Israeli ambassador was organized by the Israeli intelligence services themselves. The world knows of many similar examples in the dirty history of the Israeli intelligence services.

There are other details. On his return to Jerusalem after his talks with Haig, directly and with no procrastination, Sharon told Begin, then Israeli prime minister, that the United States viewed with understanding the aggression planned against Lebanon.

MATERIALS CONCERNING SITUATION IN CHAD

'Open Colonial War'

PM031424 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 31 Jan 84 p 3

[A. Zhukov article: "Chad: The 'Anatomy' of a Conflict"]

[Excerpts] French Air Force ground attack aircraft and fighter-bombers are bombing the positions of the Transitional National Unity Government (GUNT) troops. Foreign Legion cutthroats and paratroopers, led by General J. Poli, commander of the French invasion forces, having broken their previous pledges to remain south of the 15th parallel, have advanced 200 km north and seized the line of the 16th parallel. The order to attack was personally given by French Defense Minister C. Hernu.

The new unprovoked outbreak of violence in Central Africa followed on the heels of the mid-January Addis Ababa conference on national reconciliation in Chad under the OAU aegis.

In organizing the Addis Ababa meeting, the OAU invited all 11 groupings that signed the Lagos Agreement to participate in it. There were even statements in support of the OAU initiative from certain Habre supporters. In particular, I. Miskine, the Ndjamena foreign minister, flew to Addis Ababa and spoke in favor of a peaceful resolution of the Chad conflict and against rapprochement with the United States, Israel, and South Africa. However...the talks were broken off. H. Habre refused to participate in them, and I. Miskine "died suddenly in unexplained circumstances." Many people believe he was assassinated by Western special service agents.

Thus, despite official Paris' numerous statements about its "desire for peace in Africa," the Chad conflict is gradually growing into an open colonial war against the Chadian people, and is also posing a threat to neighboring countries. "Paris' nostalgia, fomented from overseas, for the era of the French colonial empire," the ETHIOPIAN HERALD writes, "is a major threat to the independence and sovereignty of the countries of the region and is fraught with new, bloody wars. It is time to rethink and come to the negotiating table." It is indeed high time.

French Help Habre

PM031124 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Feb 84 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report under general heading "The Situation in Chad"]

[Text] Paris, 1 Feb -- According to reports from Ndjamena, the interventionist forces in Chad are actively preparing an offensive against the Transitional National Unity Government [GUNT] forces. Having taken up new positions in northern Chad, LE MATIN writes, the French troops have been set the task of cutting off the GUNT detachments from the population centers.

The start of a trip by French Foreign Minister C. Cheysson to Chad has been announced here. According to Western press reports, one of the trip's purposes is to give further help to the Hissein Habre regime.

Tripoli, 1 Feb -- Tripoli radio has reported the arrival in Ndjamena of a new 3,000-strong group of Zairian troops accomapnied by U.S. advisers. Their task is to participate in suppressing demonstrations by the Chadian people against the puppet Habre regime, the Libyan radio points out.

The new contingent will join the 3,700 Zairian servicemen already in Chad, who are engaged, under the leadership of U.S. and Israeli instructors, in punitive operations against the population of that Central African country.

Lagos, 1 Feb -- Nigeria is observing the exacerbation of the military situation in Chad with great anxiety, Nigerian Minister of External Affairs Ibrahim Gambari declared here.

French Buildup

PM031111 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Feb 84 Morning Edition p 1

[Own correspondent Yu. Kovalenko report: "France-Chad: Settlement Necessary"]

[Text] Paris -- French Foreign Minister C. Cheysson left 1 February on a visit to Chad, Ethiopia, and Libya. According to official reports, the purpose of this trip is to conduct talks to assist the quest for ways to establish peace in Chad.

While in Addis Ababa; C. Cheysson will meet Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of Ethiopia's Povisional Military Administrative Council, who is also chairman of the OAU. Acting Secretary General P. Onu has declared that the OAU must continue its efforts aimed at settling the conflict. Libyan leader M. al-Qadhdhafi has confirmed his readiness to establish contacts with France in order to resolve the conflict.

Commenting on the situation in Chad, observers note that France is continuing to build up its military presence in this African country. The expansion of the zone occupied by French subunits from the 15th to the 16th parallel, the press emphasizes, increases the danger of military clashes between the corps of interventionists and the forces of the Transitional National Unity Government.

The French Army, LE FIGARO points out, is now practically on the front line. All leave for the soldiers has been canceled. Aircraft and paratroop detachments are patrolling a vast area of the country. According to the weekly LE POINT, Paris continues to spend vast sums on Operation "Manta" -- the maintenance of its expeditionary corp in Chad.

Chad 'Powder Keg'

LD041502 Moscow TASS in English 1223 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Paris February 4 TASS -- Troops of the pro-Western Habre regime are incurring considerable losses in fighting with forces of the Transitional National Unity Government of Chad. AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE reported from Ndjamena that units of the Transitional National Unity Government killed more than 350 officers and men of Hissein Habre's army over recent days.

General Jean Poli, commander of the French intrusion force in Chad, visited the zone of hostilities, in particular the towns Salal and Arada where the vanguard units of the occupation troops are deployed. Observers summed up that inspection visit as signaling preparations for fresh aggressive operations against the forces of the Transitional National Unity Government.

While Paris is gambling on further escalating military activities in Chad, most African countries are urging a peaceful settlement of the Chadian conflict. One of the countries that are calling for vigorously rebuffing the aggressive policy of imperialists and their placemen is Libya whose government, said the newspaper L'HUMANITE, has repeatedly gone on record in favour of talks with a view to resolving the Chadian problem.

Antananarivo February 4 TASS -- France's escalating military interference in Chad, wrote the Malagasy newspaper MIDI MADAGASIKARA, is giving rise to mounting concern. The peoples are expressing themselves more and more resolutely against the internationalization of the conflict in Chad and the conversion of that country into a "powder keg" of the African Continent. They are demanding an immediate end to the fratricidal war and to foreign interference in the affairs of the continent.

'Dangerous' Escalation

LD052314 Moscow TASS in English 2010 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] Tripoli February 5 TASS -- The forces of the Transitional National Unity Government of Chad deal sizeable blows to the troops of the pro-Western Habre regime. Libyan television quoted Radio Bardai as saying that as a result of fighting, units of the Transitional National Unity Government have blocked the Umm Damme area, where enemy army units were stationed. The garrison commander of Umm Damme has surrendered. Judging by reports from Ndjamena, the television said, differences have strongly sharpened in the puppet] Habre regime itself, which further complicates its already staggering position.

As is known the situation in Chad has again deteriorated after the OAU's efforts for a national reconciliation in the country were frustrated through Habre's fault.

Paris Feburary 5 TASS -- According to a FRANCE-PRESSE Agency report, the French troops, which were advanced to new combat lines, are intensively patrolling a wide zone including Kanem Province, a part of Batha and Chari-Bagirmi areas. "Inland" posts equipped with heavy artillery have been set up there. French Airforce pilots were ordered to open fire on units of the Transitional National Unity Government "sighted south of the forward lines" of the interventionist corps.

Algiers February 5 TASS -- The Algeria press service warns about the dangerous character of the escalation of France's military preparations in Chad. The sending to Chad of Airforce planes from the basis in the south of France, in Gabon and in other countries in Central Africa, will actually treble the numerical strength of the French Airforce, and the order to "destroy any object" crossing a certain "red line", the agency writes, instigates direct military actions by the French units against the liberation forces of the transitional government.

TUNISIA LIFTS CURFEW, DEMONSTRATION BANS

PM031328 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jan 84 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "On the Situation in Tunisia"]

[Text] Tunis, 26 Jan -- In accordance with Tunisian President H. Bourguida's decree, the curfew and the ban on demonstrations have been lifted throughout the country. The tanks and armored transporaters stationed at key points in the Tunisian capital have left the city's streets.

The measures now revoked by presidential decree were adopted on 3 January as a result of the riots in various parts of the country caused by the government's decision to raise the price of bread and other foodstuffs. However, the state of emergency in Tunisia remains.

SHULTZ' SALVADORAN TRIP, TALKS, PLANS VIEWED

LD041747 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Leonid Levchenko commentary]

[Excerpt] During his tour of several Latin American countries, the American State Secretary George Shultz has visited El Salvador. There is hardly anything sensational about the visit. Washington emissaries holding various ranks and titles have lately been paying frequent visits to that country, and not without reason. Things have lately been turning pretty bad for the rulers of El Salvador, and Washington has spent much money to save the Salvadoran regime from downfall. It has provided the Salvadoran authorities with as many weapons as they wanted. American advisers have taught government troops the tactics of assault on defenseless people sympathizing with the patriotic forces.

In increasing its allocations for the Salvadoran regime, the White House has given assurances that there are no violations of human rights in El Salvador although human rights have been violently abused in that country, which has been confirmed on many occasions by authoritative international organizations.

Death squads, those semilegal bands, set up with the help of the ruling elite operate along with government troops and are now responsible for the deaths of thousands upon thousands of people. It's an open secret in El Salvador that these bands are guided by the leader of the extreme right forces, Roberto D'Aubuisson. Washington is planning to install him as the country's president. Incidentally, the Washington administration has allocated about $8 million from a special fund to support the campaign for presidential elections scheduled for next month. The American state secretary met Roberto D'Aubuisson while in El Salvador and assured him that the United States backs his bid for the presidency.

One may recall at this point the characteristic given by one of the former American presidents to the former Nicaraguan dicatator Anastasio Somoza. Somoza, he said, is a son of a bitch of course, but he is our son of a bitch. According to the official version, during his tour of several Caribbean and Central American countries the state secretary will discuss steps towards a democratization of the region. He has chosen proper parties for such discussions. One is General Oscar Humberto Mejia, the dictator of Guatemala for whom the yardstick of democracy is the suppression of any dissenters. His predecessor General Rios Montt who killed 15,000 people during the 463 days in office has been described by President Reagan as a sincere democrat. In the opinion of the American President, democrats of such kind as well as Pinochets, Stroessners and the like are people who share basic values with the United States.

U.S. 'EFFORTS TO SAVE' EL SALVADOR REGIME CITED

LD032337 Moscow World Service in English 2110 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Excerpts] The Reagan administration has been accused of suppressing information on death squad activities in El Salvador. Our observer Yuriy Reshetnikov has prepared this commentary on that news item:

The charge was made by the former U.S. Ambassador to El Salvador Robert White. The Reagan administration, according to Mr White, deliberately ignored specific and detailed information on Salvadoran nationals living in Miami who had been directing the actions of death squads in their home country. The former ambassador who served in the Carter administration specifically pinpointed in his testimony the Salvadoran exiles in the United States who have continued their terrorist activities up to now.

The reign of terror however does not seem to bother Washington very much. Despite the bad press the Salvadoran regime has received for its terrorist tactics, the Reagan administration apparently concluded that those tactics may be the only way the deal with popular opposition in the country. Suffering defeat on the battlefield, the regime has been increasingly relying on terrorist tactics, trying to intimidate the population into submission. Meanwhile the United States Administration, wary of the regime's impending collapse has been taking every effort to save it.

On a recent visit to El Salvador, the U.S. secretary of state, George Shultz, pledged America's all-round support to the regime. Mr Shultz indicated that the United States wouldn't care even if the regime was headed by the notorious death squad leader, Roberto D'Aubuisson, who is a likely candidate as the next leader of the regime. This man who was described by Ambassador White as a pathological killer reportedly reassured the American secretary of state by his commitment to the democratic process. Apparently D'Aubuisson and the representative of the U.S. Administration have a remarkably similar perception of a democratic process, particularly the one that is going on in El Salvador right now.

U.S. 'SUPPLIED' PLANES USED TO BOMB NICARAGUA

LD040600 Moscow TASS in English 0557 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Managua February 4 TASS -- Five "A-37" warplanes, which were supplied to Honduras by the United States, violated Nicaragua's air space on February 3 and bombed and rocketed populated localities in Chinandega Department. As a result of the fresh bandit action, there were civilian casualties and material damage was inflicted.

This brutal raid was launched less than twenty-four hours after six warplanes attacked Nicaragua from Honduran territory.

NICARAGUA REQUESTS UN MEETING ON 'BANDIT RAIDS'

LD032148 Moscow TASS in English 1824 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] New York February 3 TASS -- The Nicaraguan Government has requested an urgent meeting of the United Nations Security Council to discuss aggressive actions carried out against that country from Honduran territory with the assistance and blessing of the United States. On Thursday, six combat planes violated Nicaragua's sovereignty and shelled several populated localities. There are losses in dead and wounded as a result of that bandit raid.

Hardly a day passed in recent weeks without new facts of aggressive actions against Nicaragua being made known to the United Nations. The Honduras-based counter-revolutionary forces, trained and armed by the American CIA, sow death and destruction on direct instructions of Washington which does not conceal its intentions to topple the Sandinist revolutionary government.

Nicaraguan Envoy Presents Case

LD041039 Moscow TASS in English 0933 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] New York February 4 TASS -- TASS correspondents Sergey Baybakov and Valentin Vasilets report: The United Nations Security Council has convened an emergency meeting at the request of the Government of Nicaragua to discuss acts of aggression which are staged against that country by Somocist cutthroats operating out of Honduras with the support of the United States. In the past year the Security Council discussed the issue of aggression against Nicaragua and the aggravation of the situation in Central America on as many as three occasions already.

Julio Icaza Gallard, Nicaraguan representative to the United Nations [name and title as received], pointed out in a letter to the president of the Security Council, a further escalation of gangster-style attacks by counter-revolutionary forces and mercenaries who are financed by the United States. Washington is prodding also the pro-American regime of Honduras into direct involvement in these armed provocations. On February 2 six warplanes violated Nicaragua's sovereignty and opened fire on its territory. That bandit attack left several people killed and wounded.

The C.I.A. is now trying to aggravate the situation around Nicaragua even further and widen the scope of military operations. Simultaneously Washington is intensifying a hostile propaganda campaign against Nicaragua. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, for example, issued threatening statements in Caracas, cynically declaring that the Nicaraguan leaders had every reason to be worried about a possible U.S. military intervention.

Speaking at the Security Council meeting, Julio Icaza Gillard emphasized, in particular, that the Reagan administration intended to provoke a war between Nicaragua and Honduras in order to justify thereby its armed intrusion into the Nicargauan territory. Under the pretext of holding joint military maneuvers with Honduras, the Pentagon had concentrated Marine units, artillery and aviation near the borders with Nicaragua.

Spy planes fitted with American-made surveillance equipment were systematically intruding into Nicaraguan airspace. There had been 620 such intrusions last year alone.

The American Administration did not bother to conceal that it was bent on keeping its troops in Honduras also after the completion of the war games, the Nicaraguan delegate said. He recalled a recent statement by U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger who had arrogantly spoken about the "need" for the United States to retain its military presence there. Plans provided for building a major U.S. military base in Honduran territory. Washington was appropriating 60 million dollars for the purpose.

The Nicaraguan representative said that Somocist gangs, trained and armed with the C.I.A.'s money, made daily incursions into his country's territory, sowing death and destruction there. He stressed also that the provocative actions of the Reagan administration, which had set about aggravating the situation in Central America, also aimed to block efforts to settle the conflict through peaceful means.

U.S. representative Charles Lichenstein launched frenzied attacks on Nicaraguan policy. He in effect confirmed Washington's intention to continue giving aid to the Somocist bandists in its full volume. The United States, he said, planned to continue supporting its allies.

The U.N. Security Council will continue the discussion of the question.

COSTA RICA REJECTS U.S. ENVOY'S 'ULTIMATUM'

LD041501 Moscow TASS in English 1323 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Washington February 4 TASS -- Speaking in an interview with the Costa Rican newspaper LA NACION, Curtin Winsor, U.S. representative extraordinary and plenipotentiary in Costa Rica, demanded, in the form of an ultimatum, that the president of that country, Luis Monge, launch economic reforms suiting Washington and modify Costa Rican foreign policy. This arrogant statement drew vigorous protests from Costa Rican political and public circles.

The ruling Party of National Liberation of Costa Rica described Winsor's statement as unheard-of interference in the country's internal affairs. A statement of the party's directorate said it would not allow anybody to lecture Costa Ricans on how they should resolve the economic problems of their country.

HISTORY OF U.S. ARMS SALE TO GUATEMALA EXAMINED

LD060036 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2000 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] The Reagan administration has agreed to sell Guatemala $2 million worth of spare parts for previously-supplied U.S.-made military helicopters, reports THE NEW YORK TIMES.

This information, says Aleksandr Baryshev, observer of the political weekly NOVOYE VREMYA, is further proof that the Guatemalan regime is one of those bloody military and police dictatorships on which Washington is relying in its Central American policy. Let us recall that in 1977, Carter, then U.S. President, in pursuit of his notorious 'human rights' doctrine, decided to rebuke certain military and police dictatorships which in their own countries resorted to particularly extreme and mass repressions against the peaceful population. Guatemala was among them. Washington then took a wide-ranging and much-publicized decision to end military aid to Guatemala. However, in practice nothing changed. Deliveries of ammunition and weapons to Guatemala continued via Israel. These weapons were made in Israeli arms factories under license from American companies and for American money. Nor was there any end to arms deliveries through private channels connected with the Pentagon. Thus, for instance, the helicopter spares of which the NEW YORK TIMES wrote, according to information earlier leaked to the press, were secretly delivered to Guatemala by the (?Conex) firm of Miami, and from the U.S. Air Force base at Homestead in Florida. Now the United States has decided to act openly. The Reagan administration, closing its eyes to the violence practised by the military regime in Guatemala is extending the generous hand of assistance to it.

Together with Honduras and El Salvador, Guatemala plays a considerable role in Washington's aggressive plans directed against revolutionary Nicaragua. As we see, the United States puts its own imperial interests first. For the sake of these, it is ready to carry out the international obligations it has undertaken.

LATIN AMERICAN LEADERS URGE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT

LD041129 Moscow TASS in English 0741 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Caracas February 4 TASS -- TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Alekseyev reports:

The leaders of Latin American states, who attended the official inauguration of Jaime Lusinchi as new president of Venezuela, have declared their support of the legitimate right of the Latin American peoples to peace, democracy, national self-determination, sovereignty, and economic progress.

The joint statement signed by the leaders of Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Nicaragua, Panama, and a number of other countries stresses the need for a peaceful settlement of the crisis in Central America and contains a call to the Latin Americans for strengthening unity and cooperation in the struggle for genuine independence and national interests.

The document expresses support for the efforts by the states of the "Contadora Group" declaring for the speediest normalization of the dangerous situation in the region, which emerged, as is known, as a result of the interventionist policy of the United States.

GEORGE SHULTZ VISITS VENEZUELA, BRAZIL

LD050300 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1335 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 4 Feb (TASS) -- G. Shultz, U.S. secretary of state, has arrived here from Caracas surrounded by strict security measures. Within the framework of his 9-day tour of the countries of the Caribbean basin and Central and South America, he has already visited El Salvador and Venezuela, and next week he will head for Grenada and Barbados. The official pretext for the journey is to discuss questions on the so-called "democratization of the region." However, the true aims of the White House emissary are exactly the opposite: to strive to enlist support for the U.S. militarist course in Central America and to seek to expand the general influence of the United States in the military, financial-economic, and other spheres.

Caracas, 4 Feb (TASS) -- Speaking at a press conference before his departure for Brazil, G. Shultz made clumsy attempts to justify the aggressive policy of the White House. In particular, he hypocritically asserted that the United States is supposedly "extremely interested in peace in Central America," and is defending "security, economic development, and democracy" in the region. At the same time, he made sallies against revolutionary Nicaragua, cynically declaring that "because of its behavior," the leadership of that country "ought to be concerned about the possibility of U.S. military intervention." In the view of THE WASHINGTON POST, Shultz's statement is "a new stage in the campaign being waged by the Reagan administration to exert pressure on the Nicaraguans."

The words by the head of the U.S. foreign policy department clearly sounded at odds with the position of the heads of state and governments of many Latin American countries who are in Caracas in connection with the transfer of authority to a new president in Venezuela. In conversations with journalists, they stressed that the problems of Central America must be resolved by peaceful means, without the use of military force. The presidents of Argentina, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Bolivia, and Costa Rica have declared their resolute backing for the peace initiatives of the countries of the "Contadora Group," who are seeking a resolution of the regional crisis by means of negotiations.

Observers are noting that Shultz's threats against Nicaragua have again revealed the true essence of Washington's Central American policy: to seek the overthrow of the Sandinist government and stifle the liberation struggle of the peoples of the region at any cost, including the use of direct, armed aggression.

VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT RECEIVES SOVIET DELEGATION

LD051618 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0920 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Caracas, 5 Feb (TASS) -- Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi has received a Soviet delegation led by K.A. Khalilov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The delegation participated in the official ceremonies connected with the change of presidential power.

The head of the Soviet delegation presented the president with a message from the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium which stresses the Soviet state's aspiration to live in peace with all people, to curb the arms race, and to avert thermonuclear catastrophe.

During the meeting, the leader of the USSR delegation briefed the Venezuelan head of state on the peaceful foreign policy actions of the CPSU and the Soviet state, and the initiatives of Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium directed toward improving the international situation, consolidating universal peace, and strengthening mutual understanding, confidence, and mutual cooperation between countries with differing sociopolitical structures in the interests of the progress of mankind.

The president of Venezuela said that his country shares the anxiety of Soviet people for the destiny of the world. Venezuela will continue to promote the lessening of international tension and the achievement of a stable peace on earth, he underlined. Its aspirations to eliminate the explosive situation in Central America and to achieve a political settlement of the region's problems is evidence of the peace-loving nature of the Venezuelan state.

J. Lusinchi gave a positive evaluation of Soviet-Venezuelan relations and advocated further development of mutually beneficial links between the two countries, especially in the trade, economic, scientific, cultural, and other spheres. In conclusion, the Venezuelan head of state wished the Soviet people success and prosperity.

Isidro Morales Paul, Venezuelan foreign minister, was present at the meeting.

REAGAN RECEIVES DOMINICAN PRIME MINISTER CHARLES

LD050210 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0320 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Washington, 4 Feb (TASS) -- President Reagan has had talks in the White House with Eugenia Charles, prime minister of the east Caribbean state of Dominica. The details of the talks were not officially reported. The deputy press secretary of the White House, Speakes, limited himself to a statement saying that "the situation in the Caribbean region" was discussed at the talks.

The curtain of secrecy that shrouded the meeting is explained by the fact that questions of the strengthening of the military-police regime in Grenada and of the knocking together of a gendarme grouping of the type of the U.S. "Rapid Deployment Force" in the region were discussed.

The puppet government of Dominica carried out Washington's instructions with particular zeal, taking part with some other east Caribbean satellites of the United States in the intervention against Grenada. Now the Reagan administration is knocking together from the subunits of the puppets, as well as from local traitors, a permanent occupation corps on the island. The main task of this corps, for whose needs about $15 million were allocated, is the repression of patriotic forces on Grenada.

CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE POLITBURO SESSION HELD

PM060946 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Feb 84 Morning Edition p 2

["At the CPSU Central Committee Politburo" - PRAVDA headline]

[Text] At its regular meeting, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo considered and adopted the address of the CPSU Central Committee to all voters and the citizens of the USSR. The text of the address is published in the press.

The Politburo meeting heard a report by CPSU Central Committee Secretaries Comrades Ligachev and Zimyanin on the progress of the preparations for elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet of the 11th convocation. It was noted that the electoral campaign is proceeding in full correspondence with the USSR Constitution. Constituencies and polling stations have been formed by the stipulated time limits. The nomination of candidates for election as deputies is nearing completion. In a number of constituencies meetings have begun between election candidates and voters. Electoral commissions made up of over 2 million representatives of the working people have set abut their work. Leading workers and the best agitators, propagandists, lecturers and rapporteurs have been involved in carrying out work among the population.

Many work collectives are undertaking the socialist pledges of completing ahead of schedule the fulfillment of the first quarter's targets by election day and providing the country with a considerable amount of above-plan output. The Politburo upheld the initiative of those enterprises that have launched socialist competition to greet in worthy fashion the elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet, and stressed the importance of spreading this initiative by every means.

In the course of the preelection campaign, party and state organs have been receiving a large number of suggestions concerning the work of the soviets of people's deputies, the fulfillment of mandates from the voters, the integrated development of and provision of amenities for populated localities, and the work of passenger transport and health care, trade and communal service establishments. This makes it incumbent upon the appropriate party and state organs and the leaders of ministries and departments to be as attentive as possible to the population's requirements and to step up their monitoring of the work of all organizations providing services to the working people.

In connection with the elaboration of the comprehensive program for the development of consumer goods production and of the services system, the CPSU Central Commitee Politburo examined the issue of measures to enhance the interest of production associations and consumer service enterprises in more fully meeting the population's needs for services. The decision, adopted in this connection by the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers, provides for holding an economic experiment at consumer service enterprises in the Bashkir and Komi ASSRs, Altay Kray and Astrakhan, Ivanovo, Kemerovo, Saratov and Yaroslavl Oblasts.

For the enterprises taking part in the experiment the provision is to broaden their economic independence, to reduce the number of approved plan indicators, to upgrade the role of stable norms, and to increase the material incentives for the workers, and the collectives' economic responsibility for the results of their work. In the process, the system of assessing the enterprises' performance and of the economic levers is aimed at stimulating the collectives to improve the quality and reduce the time required to fulfill orders, and at raising the standard of the services rendered to the population.

It is being laid down that the profit, with the exception of the sums deducted on the basis of stable quotas into the national budget, will be placed in its totality at the disposal of the corresponding enterprises which will, upon coordination with the trade union committees, determine the size of the means to be allocated for production and social development.

In conducting the experiment, it is planned to make broader use of existing and new forms of organization and remunerating the labor of workers, engineers, technicians and office workers. One has in mind, among other things, making more active use of the team forms of work on the basis of one single contract and remuneration according to the final result. Broader possibilities are-provided for using, outside the working day, labor imputs by those with more than one job, and for attracting students, pensioners and housewives to work at service enterprises, including part-time. Other measures are also provided for aimed at enhancing the efficacy of the performance by organizations providing services to the population.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo examined a number of foreign policy issues. It approved the results of the visit by the USSR party and government delegation led by Comrade Gromyko to the Socialist Republic of Romania, and the Soviet delegation's conversations with Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the RCP and Romanian president, and other Romanian leaders held under the sign of the further development of the various aspects of Soviet-Romanian cooperation.

The Politburo heard reports by Comrades Aliyev, Dolgik, and Ryzhkov on the meetings held in Moscow with Comrade Havasi, member of the Politburo and secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee, on questions of improving the economic and scientific and technological relations between the USSR and Hungary.

In discussing some of the issues connected with the development of Soviet-Spanish relations, the Politburo reaffirmed that in the current complex international situation there are favorable prospects for a deeper mutually advantageous cooperation between the Soviet Union and Spain.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo also examined other issues at its meeting.

CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE APPEAL TO VOTERS

LD032231 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Appeal of the CPSU Central Committee to all voters and citizens of the USSR -- announcer read]

[Text] Dear comrades: On 4 March 1984 we all have to exercise a most important constitutional right and carry out a lofty civic duty -- that of electing deputies to the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The Leninist party is coming to the elections in close alliance with nonparty members. This alliance is the embodiment of the inviolable unity of the party and people and of the monolithic cohesion of socialist society; it is the source of the might and progress of the country of the Soviets.

Five years have passed since the preceding elections to the supreme organ of state power. This has been a time of sustained labor, of creative search, and persistent efforts in the implementation of great and complicated tasks put forward by the 25th and 26th CPSU Congresses. Adding up the results of the country's development over the period that has elapsed, today it can be reported with complete foundation to the Soviet people:

The political course that was worked out by the party is being unswervingly implemented and new successes have been achieved in economic and cultural construction; our homeland has become still more wealthy and strong. The Leninist foreign policy, the policy of the peace and security of the peoples, is being carried out consistently.

The decisions of the November 1982, and the June and December 1983 CPSU Central Committee Plenums, and the speeches of Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, define precisely the ways and means for the planned, all-round further improvement of developed socialism and the basic directions for the further development of the forces of production and production relations, of all spheres of public life. Under the leadership of the party, the Soviet people are building up its efforts in the struggle for the more efficient use of the country's economic, scientific-technical and spiritual potential.

Comrade voters: In the years that have passed, the Soviet economy, the foundation of the might of the fatherland, has risen to a higher level. National income has grown by 18.6 percent, and more than four-fifths of this growth has been obtained through raising labor productivity. Fixed capital has increased by 39 percent. More than 1,000 new state industrial enterprises have been put into operation. The natural wealth of Siberia and the Far East is being assimilated successfully and the Baykal-Amur main railway line is entering service. The Energy Program is being implemented consistently: The planet's major gas pipeline Urengoy-Pomary-Uzhgorod has been built ahead of schedule. Our country occupies first place in the world for the production of more than 30 of the most important types of industrial production, including oil, steel and rolled metal, tractors, diesel locomotives and electric locomotives, cement, mineral fertilizer, and wool fabrics.

As a result of the great organizational and political work of the party and the intensive labor of the people the rate of economic growth grew in 1983 and the basic indicators of the national economy were improved. The volume of industrial output increased by 4 percent and labor productivity by 3.5 percent. The base industries have moved forward and matters are being put right in transportation.

Tireless concern is being displayed for the upsurge of agriculture. Over the past 5 years R186 billion -- almost 17 percent more than during the previous 5-year period -- has been allocated for its development. The transformation of the Nonchernozem Zone of the RSFSR continues. The implementation of the Food Program has become the cause of the whole people.

The economy of the kolkhozes and sovkhozes is being strengthened and living and cultural and domestic conditions in the countryside are being improved. The average annual volume of agricultural output has risen by comparison with the preceding 5-year period. A substantial growth in the gross output of sugar beet and potatoes was achieved, more feed was procured and more grain corps were reaped. Procurement of milk, livestock, poultry, and eggs were increased.

The party will continue to pay unremitting attention to the development of the agro-industrial complex, to seek an increase in the return on the resources invested in it, and to do everything to ensure that the population is supplied with high-quality food produce without interruption.

The successes of our economy are obvious. At the same time there are still bottlenecks and shortcomings in many sectors of the national economy, and it is essential that considerable work be done in order to remove these. The efficiency of production has to be raised considerably, and the transfer of the national economy onto the track of intensive development has to be speeded up.

The economic mechanism, planning and economic management methods do not fully measure up to present-day conditions. The quality of several types of manufacture reamins low; far from everywhere is there a thrifty attitude to the wealth of the people, and a considerable number of enterprises fail to fulfill their obligations under agreements. We are not yet satisfied with the situation in capital construction.

A cardinal raising of labor productivity, a lowering of output prime costs and an increase in the shift index of equipment are required in the interests of the cause. The party attaches prime importance to strengthening the economy drive in all links of the national economy. Every collective is called upon to take concrete measures aimed at lowering the amount of labor expended and the amounts of raw materials, materials, fuel and power resources consumed. It is essential that the effectiveness of socialist competition be raised, directing it primarily toward the improvement of qualitative indicators; that front-ranking experience be introduced more energetically; and that the great opportunities of the team form of labor organization be used more fully.

One of the most important tasks is to introduce scientific and technical achievements into the national economy as quickly as possible. Particularly topical today are the words of Vladimir Ilich Lenin: The one who has the greatest technology, organization, and discipline is the one who comes out on top.

The CPSU Central Committee calls upon the working people of the Soviet Union to strengthen and develop what has been achieved, to make good the lagging behind that has occurred in a number of sectors; to develop a competition of the whole people for the fulfillment and overfulfillment of the plans of the current year and of the 11th 5-Year Plan. Today, under conditions in which the international situation has been sharply exacerbated, the rigorous fulfillment of state plans is not merely an obligation but the patriotic duty of every Soviet person and of every labor collective.

In voting for the candidates of the bloc of Communists and nonparty members, you will be voting, comrades, for the further development of our national economy and for the strengthening of the country's economic and defensive might.

Dear Comrades: Everything that the party does it does in the name of the people and for the people, for the sake of raising the material and spiritual living standards of Soviet people. Over 5 years, real per capita incomes have grown by 13 percent. The average monthly pay of workers and office staff has been increased from R160 to R182, while payment for the labor of kolkhozniks has been increased from R109.5 to R138. Almost 50 million people have celebrated house-warmings, while expenditure on living accommodation and municipal services does not exceed, on average, 3 percent of the budget of the worker and office worker family. During the current year the entire growth in national income is being directed toward raising the standard of living of the people.

Social consumption funds are being increased constantly. Payments and benefits from these funds per person have grown from R404 to R495. The minimum values of pensions on account of age, invalidity and loss of the bread-winner have been raised; assistance to families with children has been increased; and the conditions under which pupils are maintained in general-educational boarding schools and in children's homes have been improved. School pupils enjoy free text-books.

The party considers the provision of necessary goods for the population, the extension of their range, and the raising of their quality to be a matter of special importance. A complex program for the development of consumer goods production and of the system of services for the population is being worked out.

Medical assistance is being improved and preparations have been started for the introduction of an annual medical check-up for all the country's inhabitants. The party attaches great importance in the solution of social problems to the absolute fulfillment of plans for the construction of residential houses, schools and preschool establishments, hospotals, and other cultural and domestic objectives. A wide complex of measures for protecting the environment and for the rational use of natural resources is being carried out.

Socialism is distinguished by a quality of life of the working people that is new in principle. It does not amount solely to material comfort, but takes upon itself the whole spectrum of full-blooded human existence: A favorable social climate and full labor employment; a collectivist spirit and comradely mutual assistance; moral health and social optimism; the feeling of being master of one's country. The chief measure of a person's worth and social prestige in our country is labor. Deliberate, conscienscious, enterprising labor for the wellbeing of society is the basic manifestation of civic spirit and the source of the wellbeing of the people.

By voting for candidates in the bloc of communists and nonparty menbers, Soviet people will be voting for a further improvement in the living standards of every worker and every family.

Comrade voters: In the years that have passed since the previous elections, much has been done to develop education, science and culture. The transition to universal secondary education has been completed. The reform of general-education and vocational-training schools will contribute to the fundamental improvement of labor training and career orientation of young people and an uplifting of training and education quality.

the USSR occupies a leading position in the world in many areas of knowledge. Measures are being taken to strengthen the links between science and production and to develop at an accelerated pace those sectors of industry which provide scientific and technological progress. Fresh successes have been attained in the peaceful conquering of space. The role played by the social sciences in solving economic, sociopolitical and ideological education tasks is growing.

New and important works of literature and art have been created which depict authentically the truth of life and which assert our ideals. The party solicitously cultivates talent, has a respectful attitude for the creative search by artists, and supports everything that enriches culture. Showing concern for the ideological content of literature and art, the CPSU will continue in the future to channel its development in such a way as to serve the interests of the people.

Ideological and mass-political work plays an enormous part in raising the level of awareness and activity of the working people. The whole experience of Soviet society shows convincingly that when people understand profoundly the party's policy and perceive it as being in their own vital interests, the rate of our forward advance also increases. That is why the reformation of the new man is not only one of the most important aims, but is also an indispensable condition of communist construction.

In voting for candidates of the bloc of Communists and nonparty members, you, comrades, will be voting for a flowering of the spiritual life of the country, and for the creation of more and more favorable conditions for the all-round development of Soviet man.

Comrade voters. Questions of perfecting the political system of Soviet society and strengthening the state, which belongs to all the people, have been and still are at the focus of attention of the CPSU.

The indestructible alliance of workers, peasants, and intelligentsia is growing stronger, while the leading role of the working class is being maintained and strengthened. A process of drawing classes and social groups together is under way, as is the evolution of a classless society.

Developed democracy also corresponds to developed socialism. The equal rights of all citizens, men and women, races and nationalities, the right of each to work, rest, education, a home, to health-care, and other socioeconomic, political, and personal rights and freedoms -- all these are the realities of our life, guaranteed by the USSR Constitution and the socialist structure.

What can bourgeois society, the proponents of its spurious and hypocritical democracy, and the cynical upholders of human rights set against these fundamental values of socialism? The power of the rich, the omnipotence of monopolies, social and national oppression, economic crises, chronic unemployment, the despair of the impoverished and moral degradation -- these are the realities of a so-called free society, the incurable flaws of capitalism, which is historically doomed.

The consistent improvement of socialist democracy is the unchanging course of the CPSU. The party is devoting great attention to involving the broad masses in working out decisions on the most important problems of state and social life, to the broader airing of issues, to the development of criticism and self-criticism to strengthening people's control, and to the growth of activity by trade unions, the Komsomol, and other mass organizations. The Law on Labor Collectives opens new opportunities for the manifestation of initiative and spontaneous activity by the working people.

Soviet democracy, the very essence of our socialist way of life, is incompatible with indiscipline, antisocial phenomena, and violations of laws. The party, with the people's full support, is unswervingly pursuing a course toward the strengthening of discipline, organization, and order. A persistent struggle is being waged against speculation, bribery, and embezzlement of socialist property, against everything that runs counter to the norms of the socialist communal life. In this struggle the broad masses of the working people are taking an increasingly active part.

The main instrument of people's power, and the political foundation of the USSR, is the soviets of people's deputies. The role that they play in solving tasks of economic and cultural construction is growing steadfastly, and the deputies' links with the population are begoming stronger. The party sees its duty as developing further the creative activity of the soviets and raising the level of responsibility and authority of those elected by the people. One urgent task is to perfect the administrative apparatus and improve its work.

The party will continue in the future to show concern for broadening the participation of the working people in managing the affairs of state and society and will strive to ensure that each person makes full use of his rights and carries out his civic duties in a model fashion.

The Central Committee appeals to the working class, to the kolkhoz peasantry, and to the Soviet intelligentsia to cast their votes for candidates in the bloc of Communists and nonparty members. You will thereby be voting, dear comrdes, for the further strengthening of the unity and cohesion of Soviet society -- the society of social justice and true people's power.

Citizens of the Soviet Union: The Communist Party is consistently implementing Lenin's nationalities policy, the fruits of which we take legitimate pride in. For the first time in world history, the multinational make-up of the country has turned from a source of its weakness into a source of strength and prosperity.

Over the past years, the economic potential of all the union republics has gained in strength even further within the framework of the unified national economic system. Soviet internationalist culture has become enriched and has assumed bright, new colors. The celebrations of the USSR's 60th anniversary was a demonstration of the genuine friendship and indissoluble fraternity between the peoples.

The party sees its task as continuing to ensure the all-round development of the nations and ethnic groups of the country and unswervingly pursuing a course of bringing them closer and closer together. The CPSU will show constant concern for ensuring proper representation of working people of all nations in party and state bodies, will promote the growth of national detachments of the working class, will take into account the specific requirements of citizens in the sphere of language, culture and way of life, and will perfect patriotic and internationalist education.

By voting for the candidates in the bloc of Communists and nonparty members, you will be voting, comrades, for the great and indissolubl~~e fri~~endship of the brother-peoples and for a fresh uplifting of our united fatherland -- the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The society of developed socialism has been created by the selfess labor, intellect, and efforts of all classes and social groups, and of all generations of Soviet people.

Esteemed veterans of revolution, war and labor: Under the guidance of the Leninist party you were engaged in establishing and defending Soviet power and laying the foundations of socialism. During the years of the Great Patiortic War your generation defended the freedom and independence of the homeland and gained a great victory, the 40th anniversary of which will be marked next year. You restored the national economy that was destroyed by the war and built new towns and factories. Profound thanks to you, dear comrades, for your unparalleled exploits and for the high level of your thoughts and the strength of your spirit.

The party will continue to show concern for veterans and create the conditions for their active participation in the life of the country and their involvement in bringing up their young replacements. May each party, war, and labor veteran become a mentor of young people and impart to them his ideological conviction, life experience, and readiness selflessly to serve the cause of socialism.

Komsomol members of both sexes, young lads and girls: You are the heirs and continuers of the glorious traditions of the older generations. Communists and the whole people value highly your labor enthusiasm, your steadfastness in mastering the fundamentals of sciences, and your courage in carrying out your patriotic and internationalist duty. The party will always entrust young people with responsible tasks and enhance the role of the Leninist Komsomol in the communist education of the upcoming generation.

Millions of young lads and girls will be taking part in the elections for the first time. The CPSU Central Committee cordially congratulates young voters on their entry to active political life, and expresses the firm assurance that they will be worthy of the lofty title of citizen of the USSR.

Dear Women: The country is proud of your valiant toil in the national economy and in the spheres of state and public work, and glorifies your exploits as mothers. The improvement in the conditions of the work and everyday life of Soviet women, the protection of motherhood and childhood, and the strengthening of the family all occupy a place of importance in the social policy of the party and the state.

There is no doubt that Soviet women will always march in the front ranks of the creators of a new society and will bring up worthy sons and daughters of our homeland.

The CPSU Central Committee calls upon veterans, young people and women to give their votes for candidates of the bloc of Communists and nonparty members and thereby to display high awareness and a determination to redouble the and strength glory of the land of the soviets.

Compatriots: The party and Soviet state are doing everything possible to ensure peaceful conditions for the life and work of Soviet people and for the preservation and strengthening of world peace and of the security of the peoples.

Today through the fault of ultrareactionary imperialist forces striving to retard social progress, the international situation has worsened considerably. The U.S. ruling circles, laying claim to world domination, have launched an unbridled arms race, have elevated state terrorism to the level of official policy, and by force of arms are trying to dictate their will to sovereign states. The U.S. Administration if deliberately aggravating relations with the Soviet Union, is stooping to the vilest provocations against the socialist countries, and has wrecked the talks on the limitation and reduction of nuclear arms in Europe.

The deployment of Pershings and cruise missiles on the threshold of our home is a direct threat to the security of the USSR and of all the socialist community, and it is a step that is extremely hostile to peace. It is an overt attempt by the United States and its NATO allies to alter in their favor the military balance in Europe and on a global scale. But this is not to be!

Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's statements of 38 September and 24 November 1983 and his answers to questions put by the newspaper PRAVDA provide a profound and comprehensive assessment of the reasons for the present complication of the international situation, confirm the consistent foreign policy course of our party, and express the united will of the Soviet people for peace and their determination to firmly rebuff the crusade against socialism announced by Washington. The retaliatory steps being taken by the USSR and its Warsaw Pact allies have met with unanimous approval from our people and the working peoples of other countries of the socialist community and have been greeted with understanding and support by all people of goodwill abroad.

Despite the complex military-political situation, it must not be overdramatized. The Soviet people have strong nerves. We have sufficient strength and resources to uphold the interests of the USSR and of its friends and allies. The CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government will continue to take tireless pains to strengthen the defense capability of the country and to equip the Armed Forces with everything necessary to defend the gains of socialism.

Servicemen of the Soviet Army and Navy: The party and people call upon you to tirelessly perfect your combat mastery and skill, to persistently master your awesome weaponry and modern equipment. Worthily discharge your sacred duty to the motherland and be ever on the alert!

Our people are responding to imperialism's intrigues with even closer cohesion around Lenin's party. It is important that each Soviet person should display a high degree of political awareness and vigilance and labor at full efficiency for the sake of strengthening the fatherland's economic and defensive might.

Upholding peace and averting a nuclear catastrophe is the chief task of the present time. The Soviet Union is waging a struggle, along with all peace-loving forces of the planet, to resolve this task. The USSR is contributing in every way to the strengthening of the unity of the socialist community countries and to the consolidation of the socialist community's positions as a bulwark of peace and social progress.

The nonaligned countries are intensifying their actions to counter aggression and the threat of war. The antiwar movement of the masses, which has become a weighty factor of international politics, has assumed an unprecedented scale. The CPSU actively advocates the internationalist collaboration of Communists and of all progressive forces that are struggling against oppression and exploitation, for the preservation of human civilization, and for the prime right of people -- the right to life.

The CPSU, even in today's acute situation, will not retreat from the Peace Program adopted by its congresses. A USSR Supreme Soviet resolution confirmed once again: The Soviet Union does not encroach on the security of any country -- be it in the West, or in the East. It desires to live in peace with all countries and to implement the principle of peaceful coexistence among states with different sociopolitical systems. Expressing the most profound aspirations of the Soviet people, the party and government will do everything to avert the threat of war and to preserve peace for the present and future generations.

By voting for the candidates of the bloc of Communists and nonparty people you, comrades, will be voting for a Leninist foreign policy, the invariable aims of which are to preserve lasting peace and universal security, to expand and deepen cooperation among states, and to defend the right of peoples to independence and social progress.

Comrades. Soviet people associate all our country's achievements with the multifaceted work of the CPSU, the leading and guiding force of society. In 80 years, from a small organization of Marxist revolutionaries, it has been transformed into a powerful party today numbering more than 18 million Communists.

Guided by Marxist-Leninist theory and creatively developing it, the CPSU determines the country's internal policy and its foreign policy course. Profoundly conscious of its historic role and of its responsibility for the country's destiny, the party strives to exert an ever-more effective influence on the course of social processes, and perfects the forms and methods of party guidance of society in accordance with the requirements of the times and with its new tasks.

By all that it does, the party asserts the Leninist style of work -- a style that is scientific, creative, and innovative, and which ensures a high degree of organization, an ability to mobilize the masses for solving constructive tasks, and an implacable attitude to formalism and bureaucratism. The CPSU is constantly raising the demands it makes on Communists and seeing to it that each of them is a selfless fighter for the triumph of communist ideals, who always and in everything fulfills worthily his role as a member of the vanguard.

Our party assesses the situation realistically, speaks directly and openly of problems as they arise, and takes counsel on how best to solve them. This approach is also a hallmark of the present election campaign in the course of which we are comprehensively analyzing questions of socioeconomic, political, and spiritual development and the work of the state and economic organizations, and giving mandates to the elected representatives of the people. All proposals and comments by the working people will be attentively examined and taken into account in the further work of the party and of the soviets of people's deputies.

For the CPSU, there is nothing higher or dearer than the interest of the working people. In serving them, in taking care of the welfare and happiness of Soviet people, it sees the meaning of its activities. Relying on the trust and support of the masses, the CPSU confidently leads the people along the road of Lenin, the road of the Great October.

Voters and comrades, citizens of the Soviet Union: The CPSU Central Committee calls on you to give your vote to the candidates of the bloc of Communists and nonparty members. By voting unanimously, you will demonstrate once again your loyalty to the party's course toward communist construction and peace.

All to the elections!

Long live our glorious homeland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics!

Long live Soviet power, the power of the people and for the people!

Glory to the working people of the land of the soviets!

Under the banner of Lenin and under the leadership of the Communist Party, forward to new victories in the construction of communism!

[Signed] The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union

CPSU HISTORY BOOK 7TH EDITION REVIEWED

PM031508 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Feb 84 First Edition p 2

[Editorial Article: "The Path of Struggle and Victories: On the Publication of the Seven Edition of the 'History of the CPSU'" passages in uppercase published in boldface]

[Text] The June (1983) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee pointed out the importance of the profound mastery by all Communists and working people of the revolutionary teaching of Marx, Engels, and Lenin, and called for "improvements in the propaganda of Marxism-Leninism, the party's history and policy, and its experience of activity at various stages of the struggle for socialism." The textbook "History of the CPSU" is called upon to play a considerable part in resolving these tasks. It has been in publication for 25 years. In the year of the 80th anniversary of the party's foundation, the 7th edition of the book has come out, which brings the party's history up to mid-1983. (Footnote) ("History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union" [Istoriya Kommunisticheskoy Partii Sovetskogo Soyuza], 7th Edition. Authors' collective: B.N. Ponomarev (leader), M.S. Volin, V.S. Zaytsev, N.N. Maslov, I.I. Mints, A.D. Pedosov, V.I. Popov, A.I. Sobolev, K.I. Suvorov, V.S. Telpukhovskiy, B.P. Filatov. Moscow, Political Literature Publishing House, 1983, 784 pages.)

In its eight decades the CPSU has accumulated tremendous experience of theoretical, political, and organizational activity which has no equivalent in any other political organization in the world. Heading the working class and the masses of working people, it has traveled a heroic path of struggle and victories and truly historic achievements. Its most important result, the textbook notes, is history's first developed socialist society and the science of building that society -- a science tried and tested by experience.

Summing up the revolutionary movement's experience in the pre-October period and defining its role, V.I. Lenin wrote that theory "becomes decisively established only in close connection with the practice of a truly mass, truly revolutionary movement" ("Complete Collected Works, Vol 41, p 7). It was the indissoluble unity of theory and practice which was the main characteristic of the party of the Russian proletariat -- the new type of party created at the Second Russian Social Democratic Workers Party Congress.

Emerging into the arena of the political struggle at the beginning of the imperialist epoch, it was the only party of its time to give the correct answers to the vital problems of the Russian and international workers movement. Tenets on the hegemony of the proletariat in revolution, on the development of the bourgeois democratic revolution into the socialist revolution, on the peasantry as the main ally of the proletariat, on the leading role of the Marxist party in revolution, on the possibility of victory for the proletarian revolution and for socialism initially in a few countries or one country individually -- all these were vividly confirmed in practice and became part of the gold reserve of Marxist-Leninist thought. The success of Great October, as the book convincingly shows, was predetermined by the rallying of the Bolshevik party on Lenin's ideological and political platform and by its ability to unite the broad masses of the people around itself and to lead them to make an assault on the Old World.

The CPSU's experience in the post-October period is even richer and more diverse. History entrusted the Russian proletariat, headed by the Leninist party, with the responsible mission of pioneering the new life. The party elaborated theoretically and resolved in practice the highly complex tasks of the socialist transformation of society in a huge, multinational country encircled by hostile capitalism.

The USSR confirmed Marxism-Leninism's conclusion to the effect that the state in the transitional period from capitalism to socialism is the dictatorship of the proletariat. Having fulfilled its historical role, it becomes the state of the whole people. On the basis of the Leninist principles of complete free will and equality for all nations and ethnic groups, the multinational Soviet socialist state was created. Our country's experience has shown that victory for socialism is impossible without the creation of the material and technical base through industrialization, the collectivization of peasants, farms, the implementation of the cultural revolution, and the establishment of communist ideology in society. This experience is of international significance.

A number of chapters of the book are devoted to the CPSU's activity during the Civil and Great Patriotic Wars, the defense of socialism's gains, the party's constant concern for strengthening the Soviet state's defense might, and its persistent efforts in the struggle to ensure universal peace and prevent a new world war.

The authors devote particular attention to examining the CPSU's cooperation with Marxist-Leninist parties in the fraternal socialist countries, with communist and workers parties in capitalist states, and with national liberation movements. All our party's international activity is an example of loyalty to the principles of the teaching of Marx and Lenin and proletarian internationalism.

Not all the natural laws characteristic of socialism immediately appear at once, and many of its problems are not easy to solve. But the party keeps an attentive eye on the processes taking place in society. Socialism ensures the rapprochement of all classes and social groups and the rallying of all the country's nations and ethnic groups in a harmonious family. A historically new community of people -- the Soviet people -- has emerged in the USSR. The 26th CPSU Congress, comprehensively analyzing the experience of our development, put forward the tenet of the formation of the classless structure of society in the main within the historical framework of mature socialism.

The congress placed the elaboration of the concept of developed socialism first among the achievements of recent years in the sphere of the Marxist-Leninst theory. On the basis of that concept, the party defined its strategy and tactics for the next few years and the longer term. "Major, large-scale tasks face the party and people in the last decades of the 20th century," Comrade Yu.V. Andropov has noted.

"Taken together, these tasks amount to what could be called improving developed socialism, in the process of which the gradual transition to communism will take place." And the party program, a new edition of which is being prepared in accordance with the 26th Congress' decision, must be above all, as the CPSU Central Committee June (1983) Plenum particularly stressed, "A PROGRAM FOR THE PLANNED, COMPREHENSIVE IMPROVEMENT OF DEVELOPED SOCIALISM, AND THUS OF FURTHER PROGRESS TOWARD COMMUNISM."

A new stage in the party's own development began with the building of mature socialism. While remaining by its class nature a party of the working class, it has become the party of the whole people. Its role in Soviet society is steadily growing. The book publicizes in detail the party's internal life, the fruitful political and organizational activity of all its organs from the Central Committee to the primary organizations, and the forms and methods of leadership of state and public organizations. The attention of the CPSU, its Central Committee, and the Politburo has been and is constantly centered on questions of increasing the people's well-being, was economic and cultural building, science, and the communist education of the working people.

The new, sixth section of the last chapter of the book -- "Following the Course of the 26th CPSU Congress" -- is of great interest, expounding the party's activity over the 2 and 1/2 years since the congress. In that period the party's strength, the political maturity of its cadres, and their ability to resolve the impressive tasks facing the country have been manifested particularly vividly. The Central Committee, realistically analyzing the situation within the country and in the international arena and elaborating guidelines for the future, peristently demands from party organizations, soviet organs, and all officials, enhanced initiative and responsibility and efficient fulfillment of what is planned.

Last year measures were implemented to further improve economic management and strenthen state, labor, and plan discipline. This work is already yielding tangible results. The rate of economic growth has increased and qualitative indicators have improved. The soviet people have once again proved that no "sanctions" or boycotts can stop their progress. Our state has sufficient economic, scientific, and technical potential to resolve any economic or defense tasks.

The book assigns a prominent place to generalizing the experience of our democratic development in accordance with the new USSR Constitution. The authors characterize the leading trend in the country's political life, namely the increasingly active participation of working people in the management of state and public affairs, and show the party's role in strengthening and developing that trend. One important step in this direction was the adoption, after nationwide discussion, of the Law on Labor Collectives, which considerably extends their powers, especially in the management sphere.

The resolution of the creative tasks facing the Soviet people demands that favorable external conditions are ensured. The textbook illustrates our party's struggle for the implementation of the Peace Program elaborated by its congresses. In recent years this program has been augmented by a series of new peace initiatives aimed at preventing thermonuclear war and lowering the levels of nuclear and conventional armaments of NATO and the Warsaw Pact countries down to total nuclear disarmament. At the same time the Soviet Union and its allies take all necessary measures to safeguard their own security and prevent the United States and NATO as a whole from securing military superiority.

"The Soviet leadership," Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, says in his statement, "Appeals to the leaders of the United States and the West European states once again to consider all the consequences which the implementation of plans to deploy new U.S. missiles in Europe threatens for their own peoples and all mankind...

"The Soviet leadership states that, fulfilling the Soviet people's will, it will continue to do everything to move the threat of war and safeguard peace for present and future generations."

The history of the CPSU is Marxism-Leninism in action, an inexhaustible source of the experience -- theoretically interpreted and tested in practice -- of the masses of millions of working people. This experience covers the whole range of questions of building the new society -- the creation of its material and technical base, the implementation of social transformations, the working people's communist education.

The CPSU now places the whole of its multifaceted experience of activity, its very rich arsenal of methods and forms of political, organizational, ideological, and educational work which it has tested over many decades, at the service of developed socialism' improvements.

The study and knowledge of CPSU history by all the working people is an important factor for success in communist building.

ANDROPOV SIGNS AWARD DECREE TO TASS OFFICIAL

PM060943 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Feb 84 Morning Edition p 2

[Text of USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Decree "On the Award of the Order of the Friendship of the Peoples to Comrade G.S. Shishkin"]

[Text] Award Comrade Gennadiy Arkadyevich Shishkin, first deputy general director of TASS, the Order of the Friendship of the Peoples for his many years of fruitful work in the press.

Yu.V. Andropov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; T. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The Kremlin, Moscow, 3 February 1984.

BRIEFS

CRITICISM OF BOURGEOIS IDEOLOGY -- Topical tasks for the scientific criticism of bourgeois ideology were discussed recently at a general meeting of the History, Philosophy, and Law Department of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences in Kiev. The scientific reports highlighted the importance of the ideological heritage of Marx, Engels, and Lenin, and of the decisions adopted by the 26th party congress and the successive CPSU Central Committee plenums as theoretical weapons in the struggle against bourgeois ideology, the topicality of the criticism of the reformist, revisionist, nationalist, and bourgeois distortions of the essence of the Marxist-Leninist theory, and the historical experience of real socialism. In the decision adopted, the meeting drew up measures for further deepening the methodological and scientific level of social scientific papers, for expanding their range, for raising their effectiveness and offensive spirit, and for improving the propaganda work carried out by social scientists. [Text] [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 2 Feb 84 AU]

MID-JANUARY WEATHER, CROP STATUS REPORTED

PM031507 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 24 Jan 84 p 2

[Report by agrometeorologist T. Ivashneva: "The Weather and the Crops"]

[Text] On the USSR's European territory the second 10-day period of January saw a slight drop in temperature, although the average temperature for the period was 4-8 degrees and in most parts of Belorussia and the Ukraine and in Moldavia 1-3 degrees above what one would expect.

Precipitation in the period totaled 5-20 mm; 30-40 mm in western oarts of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, eastern parts of Kuybyshev and Saratov Oblasts, southern Kharkov Oblast and eastern Dnepropetrovsk Oblast and 50-80 mm on the Black Sea coast of Krasnodar Kray.

On 20 January the snow cover limit followed a line joining Kishinev, Odessa, Nikolayev, Rostov-na-Donu and Kharabali (Astrakhan Oblast). The snow was deepest (31-60 cm, more in places) in the northeast part of the Northwest, in northern part of the Volga-Vyatka and most parts of the Ural regions. In western Latvia, most parts of Lithuania, Belorussia and the Ukraine, in southern parts of the Volga area, southwest parts of the Central and southern parts of the Northwest region the snow was no deeper than 10 cm. There was no snow in southern parts of the Ukraine or in the North Caucasus. In these parts winter grains crops and perennial grasses grew during daylight hours. In the Crimea, Krasnodar Kray and southwest parts of Stavropol Kray the mild, wet weather contributed to the emergence of extra winter grain shoots. Over the remaining European territory the crops lay dormant. Wintering conditions were good.

In the Transcaucasian republics the weather was mainly mild and dry. The temperature was 3-6 degrees above average. Winter grain crops grew in daylight hours.

There was slight grass growth on pastures in the USSR's European territory and the Transcaucasus. Conditions everywhere were good for keeping animals on grazing land.

It grew colder in the farming regions of Siberia and Kazakhstan. The temperature was 1-2 degrees below normal in Kemerovo Oblast, southeast parts of Altay Kray, western Irkutsk Oblast, Krasnodar Kray and also in East Kazakhstan Oblast and northern parts of Semipalatinsk and Taldy-Kurgan Oblasts. Over the remaining part of Siberia and Kazakhstan the temperature was a little above average. There was heavy frost on some nights in West Siberia and the northern half of Kazakhstan. But the low temperatures posed no threat of damage to grain crops or perennial grasses: They were under deep snow.

It grew colder in the Central Asian republics, but the average temperature for the period was above normal. Only in Kirghizia's northern valleys was it a little below. In the farming regions of Turkmenia, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan winter grain crops and grasses grew during daylight hours.

MARSHAL TOLUBKO VIEWS MISSILE TROOP TRAINING

PM301101 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Jan 84 Second Edition p 2

[Article by Artillery Chief Marshal V. Tolubko, commander in chief of Strategic Rocket Forces and USSR deputy minister of defence, under the rubric "Businesslike Efficiency, Creative Approach": "New, Progressive Elements for the Training Process"]

[Text] The training and service of Rocket Forces personnel, as of all Soviet servicemen, are proceeding under the beneficial influence of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee December (1983) Plenum and the ninth USSR Supreme Soviet session. Rocket servicemen unanimously support the party's domestic and foreign policy, the statement of Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet presidium, in connection with the start of the deployment of American medium-range missiles in West Europe, and the measures to further strengthen our motherland's security.

The Military Council, commanders, political organs, staffs, and party and Komsomol organizations are channeling the creative thinking and the activeness and initiative of strategic missilemen into further enhancing the troops combat readiness. A tireless search is being made for the most effective ways to maintain missile complexes at a high level of combat readiness, and their technical maintenance is being improved. As a result the optimum system has been found for servicing launchers and monitoring their readiness on combat duty -- a system which ensures that certain characteristics of the missile complexes are maintained at the prescribed level. In support and maintenance subunits the testbed and checkout apparatus has been improved, and its functional potential has been considerably broadened.

A distinguishing feature of the methods of training strategic missilemen is the limited opportunity for using their organic armament, which is on combat duty. This has required the creation of training facilities absolutely identical to organic ones. The new training facilities now include individual, group, and comprehensive simulators, as well as models and sections of units and devices, and diagrams.

Careful individual training of a missileman-specialist is followed by group coordination and comprehensive training of combat crews. Here tasks are resolved according to a unified tactical plan. Actions in preparing for and carrying out missile launches are rehearsed under different conditions. Electronic training facilities reproduce a full simulation of missile launches, or, in other words, an "electronic missile launch" is carried out.

The training quality of both individual servicemen and combat crews as a whole on comprehensive simulators is verified in the course of missile launches on test ranges from training launch positions. Combat training missile launches are the most objective indicator of combat readiness. Here the reliability of the missile armament and of combat control facilities and the training of crew personnel are comprehensively verified. Statistics show that the new system of training missilemen ensures the reliable performance of real missile launches under conditions as close as possible to combat conditions.

The results of the combat and political training of the personnel of subunits and units are assessed on the basis of objective criteria. For this a new unified, comprehensive system of objective criteria, normatives, and appraisal indicators has recently been elaborated and introduced into practice for every element of combat readiness. The programs, normatives, and appraisal indicators are regularly updated as the missilemen achieve a higher level of training.

Objectivity in assessing the level of combat and political training stems from the scientific demands of the management of the training process. The important factors here include well-organized records and a businesslike analysis of the state of combat training in every link.

Of course, higher results are achieved in troop training where commanders, political organs, and staffs work with initiative, a feeling for what is new, and high responsibility. This was emphasized most forcefully and sharply at the report-and-election party meeting and conferences among the troops.

High combat readiness presupposes a very efficient system for keeping missile armaments and their combat control facilities permanently ready for use. Modern missile weapons are highly automated systems based on modern computer technology with remote control and monitoring. The built-in diagnostic system makes it possible to continuously monitor the most crucial parameters ensuring the reliable functioning of the apparatus and its safe operation and totally ruling out unsanctioned actions.

However, the comprehensively and profoundly thought-out development of complexes at the planning and manufacturing stage does not rule out but presupposes their further improvement in the course of operation. The role of the military engineers directly responsible for the missiles' readiness for combat operation is exceptionally great in this important matter. Thanks to their creative labor, the complexes' indicators reliability and combat readiness considerably exceed the requirements laid down during the development and design stage. The intervals between planned preventive maintenance on missle equipment have been icreased -- which has made it possible to considerably reduce the time used and the labor-intensiveness of the work.

The initiative of the operating engineers headed by officer B. Kozhanov merits a high assessment. They have elaborated new methods for using checkout apparatus in checks on missile armaments. These methods are now successfully applied in other units of the Rocket Forces too.

It is known that the training classroom, the field, the command post, and the firing range are the creative laboratory of the commander, the political worker, the staff officer, and the engineer. In the course of combat duty, exercises, regular maintenance work, and combat training missile launches they come into contact with everything new and progressive that results from military theory and practice and the continuous development of military matters. The thoughtful search for ways to successfully fulfill combat training tasks and make the most efficient use of the combat potential of modern missile weapons and equipment gives officers rich factual material for analysis. The conclusions and generalizations brought up in the course of it are later realized in the drafting of methodological manuals and are taken into account in programs, collections of normatives, and other documents.

Thus, the method of training specialists simultaneously in two specialties -- the basic one and an allied one -- has become widespread among the troops. It is based on the method of consistent accumulation of knowledge. Here emphasis is placed on individual training sessions involving the use of programmed training facilities. This approach to organizing lessions and training sessions makes it possible to achieve high standards of training for combat crews. And another important fact: The time is takes young specialists to acquire the knowledge and skills that they need to successfully perform combat duty is reduced by 25-30 percent.

Other methodological innovations developed in the units alos provide a tangible benefit in terms of intensifying combat training.

It is characteristic that not only experienced methodologists but also yesterday's graduates from higher military educational institutions take an active part in the creative search for ways to reduce the time taken to bring young specialists into action and to enhance their vocational skill. In the unit where the methodological council is headed by officer Yu. Merkulov, a methodological manual has been drawn up with the help of young officers which makes it possible, while observing the principle of an individual approach to trainees, for specialists of different profiles to rehearse training tasks with a view to achieving high coordination among combat crews.

Of course, the practical use of methodological innovations in training personnel presupposes purposeful work on improving the training material base. Our units and subunits are equipped with modern training apparatus which makes it possible to model any situations characteristic of modern combat conditions, to polish combat skill, and to temper servicemen physically and psychologically. But the specific nature of the tasks resolved by individual units and the emergence of new methods of conducting studies and training sessions demand the final adjustment [dovodka] of organic simulators locally and the creation of additional training facilities. Here, too, our best methodologists and rationalizers display considerable creativity.

It is gratifying to note that the perosnnel of the unit commanded by Lieutenant Colonel A. Pavlov set an example in questions of introducing into practice the most efficient new methods of training and combat work and a creative approach to improving the training material base. This unit is the initiator of socialist competition among our troops. Here, work on generalizing and introducing progressive experience is conducted purposefully and concretely. It is always clearly determined thanks to, and as a result of what means and methods the high results in a particular subunit have been achieved and just how to make known to everyone the new and progressive things placed at the service of combat readiness.

Here is a characteristic example. The unit acquired a new plant simulator. The efficiency it displayed in training specialists at first ruled out even the very idea of its modernization. But a few months passed, and the staff began to receive specific proposals aimed at widening the potential of the new apparatus. An analysis of these proposals backed up by diagrams and calculations led to the conclusion that the simulator could be made still more efficient. It took comparatively little time to implement that conclusion.

Unfortunately, proper attention is not devoted everywhere to such an important element in organizational work as the practical utilization of progressive experience. Sometimes this work is organized in the old way and amounts to only the popularization of the achievements of the leading people. But at the same time other important aspects are omitted: a detailed analysis of the means and methods of conducting lessons and organizing competition and of the methodological errors committed by individual leaders of lessons; for people also learn from mistakes. Exposing the reasons for them and making a businesslike analysis will enable other officers to avoid blunders and will give the creative search for ways to intensify the training process a boost.

Young officers, ensigns, and sergeants who are recent graduates from military educational institutions, schools, and training subunits are in particular need of assistance from commanders, chiefs, and older comrades. Young commanders and political workers themselves sometimes find it difficult to assess new, progressive things that help to enhance the quality of the training process. It can happen that a young officer learns of some methodological innovation and at once endeavors to use it himself.

But the innovation turns out not to have the expected effect. Therefore, the next time this officer will not take any notice at all of an innovation: I have already tried, he says, and only wasted my time. And yet the innovation failed to have the expected effect not because it was bad in itself but because the innovation was compromised, as it were, by a hasty approach to using it.

It is necessary to give young officers skillful assistance in assessing the new forms and methods of training which emerge, and in mastering those that can be most effective for a given subunit, taking into account the specific nature of the tasks it fulfills. Here this principle must be strictly observed: Every chief teaches his subordinate.

Life convinces us that the prompt introduction of everything new and progressive into the training process is very closely linked with the further improvement of the organization and leadership of competition. These initiatives have become widespread among our troops everywhere: "A higher level of mastery of new equipment," "For the excellent outcome of every training day," "Not a single laggard alongside excellent workers," and "From masters in the crew to a crew of masters."

However, individual commanders and political workers still make poor use of the mobilizing force of competition in the interests of introducing into practice everything valuable and instructive that produces tangible results in progressive military collectives. This was shown, in particular, by an analysis conducted by officers and generals of the Rocket Forces Main Staff and Political Directorate at the end of the last training year.

"Our successes," the text of the speech of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the CPSU Central Committee December (1983) Plenum says, "will depend to a decisive degree on the mobilization of the masses, people's creative attitude toward the work entrusted to them, and the further development of socialist competition." The realization of this instruction demands of military cadres an improvement in the style of organizational and ideological education work and the ability to evaluate objectively and critically what has been achieved and to actively introduce into practice everything new and progressive that has been accumulated by progressive military collectives in the training and educational process.

PEOPLE'S VOLUNTEER MILITIA SIGNIFICANCE GROWS

LD152144 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 15 Jan 84

[From the Vremya newscast; announcer and political observer Voznesenskiy shown in studio]

[Text] [Announcer] On 2 March it will be 25 years since people's volunteer militia groups were created in our country for the protection of public order. At a regular session of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, which adopted a resolution on this matter, it was noted that the people's volunteer militia groups, created at the initiative of the working people, make, under the leadership of the party and soviet organs, a weighty contribution to the strengthening of public order in the country.

[Voznesenkiy] Hello, comrades. It is quite possible that precisely at this time when the Vremya program is in progress that Ivan Vasilyevich Shabunin, a metal worker at the Elta Works in Lipetsk Oblast and communist labor shock worker, is again on duty in the people's volunteer militia group for the protection of public order, which he joined as early as 1959, right after such volunteer militia groups were created.

Perhaps Petr Konstantinovich Afonin, automatic equipment worker at the Fifth State Bearing Works in Tomsk, member of the obkom, deputy of the city council and Hero of Socialist Labor, and Nikolay Fedorovich Moskvin, the head veterinary surgeon at the Otkormochnyy Sovkhoz of Shchigrovskiy Rayon in Kursk Oblast, a commander of a volunteer militia group, are also on such duty; and together with them, lots and lots of their comrades devote a part of their time and strength to the cause of protecting public order, as members of people's volunteer militia groups.

400,000 volunteers participate in this noble work daily; on the whole there are almost 12 million of them in the country. Twelve million people are, of course, a force, but still someone might ask: Why was this force a topic in such a high place as the Politburo of the party Central Committee? It is because the activity of the people's volunteer militia groups has an immense and ever-growing significance in at least two respects.

First, these volunteer militia groups represent one of the many ways in which the masses, the man, participates in the process of controlling the affairs of state, the affairs of society. Now such participation in general, in all its forms, is becoming more and more essential, both for the further development of the socialist democracy, for the drawing together and gradual growth of Soviet statehood into public self-rule; and also for raising the level of efficiency and for the fuller realization by each man of his potential as a citizen.

Second, the activity of the volunteer militia groups in a most direct way corresponds to the line mapped out by the November 1982 plenum and continued by the June and December 1983 Plenums of the CPSU Central Committee, the line of the party directed at strengthening discipline and order, both at work and in society. Volunteer militia group members, many of whom show an example of labor discipline at work, are also helping to strengthen social discipline.

So what would one like to wish our volunteer militia group members in connection with their coming jubilee? First of all, to accept into their ranks those people who are really worthy; to raise the level of their legal preparedness and to strengthen their ranks organizationally; to get rid of the formalism in the activity of some of the volunteer militia groups, and not simply to look after order in general, but to pay attention to everyone who is in need of it; to strengthen the educational and preventive direction of their work; to show more concern, together with the militia, for order not only on the central streets when it is light but in the yards, in remote alleys, and in suburbs in the evening -- in general, to take every measure to facilitate the strengthening of laws and order and of legality in the country and to increase the efficiency of their work which the society needs so much.

MISSILE-CARRYING AIRCRAFT TRAINING FLIGHT

PM271501 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 6

[Special correspondent N. Sautin "Reportage From on Board a Strategic Missile-Carrying Aircraft": "Flight to Coordinate 'N'"]

[Excerpts] The ocean below us is hostile and cold. We are flying between these two wildernesses -- the ocean and the stratosphere. We are flying into unoccupied sky. We are alone, completely alone...

Unfortunately this isolation is deceptive even in this remote part of the globe.

"Commander," a voice says in the earphones, "a fighter in the starboard hemisphere, above and behind us."

I recognized the voice of Pasha Kovtukh. I had forgotten about him -- he sits somewhere astern in the glass-walled compartment at the very tip of the "tail." His only link with the crew is by means of the internal communications system. The "commander's eyes in the back of his head" is what the ensign is jokingly called. He is in charge of the guns: the black barrels of his rapid-fire cannon point out from below the red-starred tail.

"On the alert crew..."

The dot that is the fighter, leaving a thin vapor trail in the clear sky, approached the Soviet missile-carrying aircraft. The silhouette of the silver-gray arrow can already be made out. A moment more and the fighter is hovering like a hornet just meters below the tail. Its identification marks show it to be from one of the NATO countries. It lowered its nose as though sniffing the ground, then turned to one side, and appeared on a parallel course off the starboard wing.

It flew right alongside, too close for safety. The six short missiles underneath and on the wings of the uninvited neighbor once again make you aware of the truth that the military service of those who fly far from their native land is severe...

The NATO pilot in the glass-roofed cockpit is fully visible. With a smile he invitingly waves a bottle of whisky. Our men pay no attention. Then, abandoning the bottle and the smile, the NATO pilot grips the control lever between his legs and, taking a camera, begins to point it at our aircraft.

Major Krytysh, the commander of the crew, did not move the heavy machine from its course by a single degree even though the "photography enthusiast" was so carried away that he seemed intent on moving into our cabin. The enemy (let us use this word without quote-marks) decided to test the Russian airmen's nerves to the limit. He went in front and turned his side toward the very nose of the missile carrier...After demonstrating the whole range of superior flying patterns available to him, the NATO pilot seemed to remember that he has less fuel in his tanks than we have and that it is time to head for home. Finally he set a combat course and imitated a missile attack.

The controls in Krytysh's hands did not move.

"Smart aleck," was all the commander said as the fighter set off at supersonic speed, became smaller, and disappeared into the distance.

What is there to hide? Such face-to-face meetings occur in unoccupied sky without witnesses.

The military encyclopedia says:

"Long-range aircraft are a component of the Soviet Air Forces designed to strike against military installations deep in the enemy's rear and continental and ocean (sea) theaters and to carry out operational and strategic aerial reconnaissance... The armory includes all-weather strategic and long-range missile-carrying aircraft and bombers. The strike systems comprise various types of airborne missiles and bombs including those with nuclear charges..."

The high-speed, high-altitude long-range aircraft make flights lasting many hours over the waters of the Pacific and the Atlantic and the ice fields of the Arctic. They vigilantly protect our motherland's peace.

I had occasion to fly on just such an aircraft.

The missile-carrying aircraft set out from the depths of RSFSR.

Our missile-carrying aircraft had set off, but through long-distance communications the airmen are linked by an invisible thread to their native land where dozens of highly specialized experts -- concerned with each unit, assembly, or instrument -- monitor the huge aircraft's "breathing" and are ready at any time of day or night to advise the airmen, thus even on a solo flight over the ocean, our airmen feel the strength of the fellowship of their "earthbound" combat friends.

The first task that the crew carries out is missile-launch training. The "enemy" installation is located hundreds of kilometers away. It is to be protected by interceptors and antiaircraft missile complexes and their airspace is bound to be scanned by radar stations. So as to take accurate aim and escape unharmed, we have to reach the point of attack undetected, which is determined by the flight range of our missile.

I admit that at first I was disappointed by the ordinariness of the missile launch. The target was only visible on the display screen: The pendulum-like [raskachivayushchiy] beam of light picked out a pulsating dot on the screen. This was the "enemy" installation. You do not see the moment of missile separation but you feel it: The missile-carrier "breathes" more easily the moment the missile is launched. From the glass-side cabin you can discern far ahead the glow of the disappearing shaft of flame: our missile has gone...It rises far above our aircraft in order to hit the "enemy" installation with accuracy from a great height.

The missile carrier turns back and already the propeller blades are intersecting the rays of the orange sun over the ocean. Down through the ragged clouds soaring above the water the heavy dark waves are rolling.

The wind picks up. The aircraft is shrouded by dense clouds. I still had not experienced that second wind which the airmen had promised I would. To lift my spirits navigator Yakov Lyubarskiy handed me some unscheduled flight rations. You know an oxygen mask does not prevent you from eating over the ocean...Then we had a bottle of cherry juice. We toasted the health of regimental doctor Aleksey Makarov. Not for nothing had he given me a checkup and sounded me out before the flight. Military labor above the clouds is hard.

The most intensive work awaited us in the depth of the night. Is it possible that in the pitch dark another Soviet aircraft is flying over the ocean precisely to meet us?

Captain Lyubarskiy, the navigator, is just like a taut string. A helmsman of the air, he plots the missile carrier's path to the meeting place by map and by means of sensitive navigational devices. At each moment we must be at a predetermined coordinate. The airwaves are buzzing with a plethora of conversations with the as yet unseen aircraft. Although the propellers are roaring so mightily it seems that we are no longer cutting through the air but are cautiously stealing along in the dense starless blackness.

And suddenly a scarcely discernible flame glowed. We were getting nearer to it. Our aircraft's powerful searchlight cuts into the darkness. In the broad strip of light I can make out a huge aircraft above us.

It was hard for me to look at the airmen and navigators -- they were soaked in sweat. Yes, the words of airman gunner M. Gunenko, one of the regiment's best officers, were proved right: "Midair refuelling is the most complicated element of the flight, I lose up to 1.5 kg in weight during it."

You seem to be sitting not so much in the cockpit as inside a movie theater watching a fantasy movie: Through the glass sides of the cockpit you can see all the problems of this unique operation taking place just a few meters away.

A fuel-line was lowered from a hatch on the underside of the tanker aircraft. On one end it has a funnel -- a docking cone. In my earphones I hear Maj Krytysh's voice:

"Slipstream engaged. I can see the cone. Permission to make contact."

The black fuel-line, like a gun barrel, appeared above the missile carrier's cockpit. With precision accuracy the commander had to guide the fuel-line into the docking cone as into a target. But just try to do this when the "target" is swinging from side to side. It weighs 250 kg. If it hits the cabin in means depressurization.

The distance narrows to a matter of meters. The whole crew forms a single coordinated organism. The moment came -- the pneumatic gun fired releasing an extension from inside the fuel line. It hit the "target" accurately and fastened on. Linkup! The tanker's fuel poured into our tanks.

But the crew remained tense. The slipstream distance must be strictly maintained, there must be no critical stretching of the fuel-line. Finally the order comes: "About to disconnect!" There is a click, I blinked, and the cabin light was sprayed with vaporized fuel. From the missile-carrier to the tanker: "Thanks for the work!" The tanker replied: "Bon voyage!"

But some "nonregulation" conversations also took place across the airwaves. Our second navigator Yu. Kosikov received congratulations on the birth of a daughter from the tanker's navigator, Capt Yu. Skorikov. They had flown together in the same air club at one time and now their aerial paths had unexpectly crossed again.

The missile carrier flies on over the ocean for a long time after this. It is only when daylight breaks in the east that the aircraft sets course for its distant home base. The return journey seems shorter. Perhaps because we are now descending in our flight around the globe...

There is no ceremony to greet us: Flights lasting many hours are now everyday work for a airmen of the long-range air force. But I suddenly feel a keen and hitherto unknown joy: How gentle and soft the earth is, even if it is the airfield's concrete runway.

URALS DISTRICT FIRST DEPUTY COMMANDER IDENTIFIED

PM251319 [Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 January 1983 Second Edition carries on page 2 a report by Lieutenant Colonel A Akhmetzyanov from the Urals Military District on an integrated political day stating that one of the district's units was addressed by "Lieutenant General I. Chelombeyev, first deputy commander of the district's forces."